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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you think the police are being too secretive in their investigation of crimes in the CNMI?

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to cast your vote.

INSIDE

WORLD



358 die when a fire tears through an overcrowded prison.

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OFFBEAT



Six little pigs have found a new friend in a maternal French bulldog.

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LIFE & STYLE



It's become SOP: When a celebrity dies, investigators go through their medicines.

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More activities lined up for 8th Tinian Pika Festival. **PAGE 2**
Kilili bill requires 60 pct. local hire for federal projects. **PAGE 13**

Remains' release OK'd since Monday

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Chief prosecutor Peter Prestley disclosed yesterday that he has already approved the release of Emerita Relata Romero's remains to the family since Monday.

» **Public viewing of Romero's body today at Kristo Rai Church**

Romero's sister, Estrellita "Lhet" Relata, on the other hand, told *Saipan Tribune* late afternoon yesterday that they are still unsure whether they can bring the remains tomorrow, Saturday, to the Philippines for burial. Relata said they have not received the authorities' go-signal to do so.

When asked as to when the Office of the Attorney General issued the release of Romero's remains from the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue, Prestley said his records show that he authorized the release on Monday, Feb. 13. Prestley did

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NMC regents split over creation of new foundation

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Board of Regents are split over a proposal to create a new foundation that will help the Northern Marianas College but will be separate from the board's jurisdiction.

During the continuation of the board's regular meeting yesterday, board chair Juan T. Lizama expressed his full support for the idea and encouraged his colleagues to develop a separate foundation whose task is to raise funds for NMC.

That same function is currently being done by the NMC Foundation, which is

under the board's jurisdiction.

According to Lizama, the NMC Foundation was created primarily to handle the endowment fund received by the college from a land grant amounting to \$3 million. Because this was created pursuant to law, Lizama said the existing foundation

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**AT \$6 TO \$6.80
A GALLON
Rota pays the
most for gas**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota motorists are now paying \$6 for regular unleaded gasoline and \$6.80 a gallon for diesel, the highest prices not only in the CNMI but also in the United States and its territories.

Average gas price in the U.S. mainland was \$3.487 a gallon on Wednesday.

"With my hourly salary which is the CNMI minimum wage of \$5.05 an hour, I cannot even buy a gallon of gas here on Rota. I need \$6 for one gallon, and it's really painful for residents here," a 38-year-old Sinapalo resident told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The mother of two said she spends an average of \$60 for gas, which she tries to stretch for two weeks, "but with increases in the price, my \$60

See ROTA on Page 4

WHAT A WASTE

Gallons of water go to waste from this leaking water pipe that also split open a phone line box beside the Ladera Center along Beach Road at noon yesterday. Nearby residents, and later an Emergency Management Office official, said they had been calling the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for over an hour to stop the leak but to no avail.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Army Corps cites levels of PCB, lead contamination in I-Denni

» **Duration of removal will depend on lab tests**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the highest reading for polychlorinated biphenyls soil contamination in I-Denni/Edoni on Capital Hill is so far 19 parts per million even as the standard cleanup level is 1 ppm, while lead found in the area soil ranges from 40 ppm to 3,000 ppm and the goal is to keep it down to 300 ppm.

PCB and lead are toxic chemicals. These are found at a pit that the U.S. military used during and after World War II as a waste repository. It has been identified as a formerly used defense site, or FUDS.

"This is not high," said Army Corps' Helene Takemoto, referring to the highest reading of 19 ppm, which she said is

still below the over 50 ppm threshold for it to be considered "contamination."

The goal is to rid I-Denni of soil with PCB level of above 1 ppm.

"We're going to keep digging until we meet what they call the environmental screening levels," Takemoto said.

See ARMY on Page 4

Local

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More activities lined up this year for 8th Tinian Pika Festival

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Besides making popular dishes extra hot and spicy, Tinian's 8th Annual Pika or Hot Pepper Festival over the weekend is expected to spur economic activities on the island.

The yearly event, happening at Tachogna Beach on Feb. 18 and 19, is expected to attract over a thousand residents and tourists who will be taking part in the festivities that include cultural performances and other presentations as well as various contests such as crab race, volleyball tournaments, cooking contest, and the renowned hot pepper eating contest.

"Pika Festival is one of our main events and it continues to grow every year through word-of-mouth and through people who like to eat spicy stuff as our pepper, the donni sali, is one of the spiciest in the world," Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

The famous hot pepper, Dela Cruz said, also provides an economic opportunity especially for the island's unemployed since picking donni sali and taking it to those who process it is a regular pastime for many.

"Pika Festival is an event where people who work and process the hot pepper have an opportunity to showcase their products," he added.

Dela Cruz disclosed said that this year's event will take hot and spicy to a whole new level as they plan to introduce an actual real hot pepper contest. Previous eating contests only involved putting hot peppers on a bowl of soba.

"We'll put a bowl of fresh hot pepper and you grab one at a time and you chew it for the next three minutes. If you eat the most hot pepper, you'll be declared winner," explained Dela Cruz, adding that they are

looking at having the contestants spit out the hot pepper to avoid indigestion or other problems.

The mayor also noted that the Tinian municipality has arranged for great airfare and accommodation deals "as a special treat for people who may want to join us for a spicy weekend."

Star Marianas is offering one-way tickets for just \$20 from Friday to Monday. For more information, call 433-9997.

Those who prefer to travel by water have an option as *Stars & Stripes* will offer charter boat rides during the festival for only \$49 round-trip. To purchase tickets, email Bruce Bateman at bbateman@pticom.com.

Dela Cruz said they are introducing this deal for the first time to entice the community of bikers on Saipan as the fee includes the freight for a bicycle.

The mayor said they will be hosting a fun ride around Tinian to introduce biking aficionados to different routes on the island "in anticipation of us planning a bike race in the very near future."

Dela Cruz disclosed that his office is subsidizing the charter boat ride to make it affordable for visitors.

"This is money well spent. You spend money to make money," he explained.

During the festival, the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino will be providing room accommodations for guests at just \$70 plus tax. For reservations, call 328-2233.

For those who love the outdoors, they can also camp out at the beach as Dela Cruz emphasized that Tinian is "very safe," with water and provider available for campers.

"I would like to invite all the people from Saipan who have a free weekend to come and join us in this event. We put together a very affordable package where you can actually come down and be part of the event," said Dela Cruz.

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Tinian Fun Ride and public boat trip this weekend

In conjunction with special boat charters from Saipan for the 8th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival this weekend, Feb. 18-19, the bike Fun Ride will be held on Saturday morning, featuring many of the island's scenic roadways and byways.

The Fun Ride will commence at the Tinian dock upon arrival and traverse Marpo Valley, Unai Masalok and the Japanese-era Communications Building. Riders will then have the option of returning south to San Jose vil-

lage on Broadway or taking an extended course north through North Field before returning to the village via 8th Ave. There will also be a road bike course for those who prefer to bike only on pavement.

Stars & Stripes is offering boat charters to the festival on both Saturday and Sunday of the festival weekend. For more information about the Fun Ride or to purchase boat charter tickets, contact cyclists Bruce Bateman at

bbateman@pticom.com, 287-0687, or 664-3215 or Paul Plunket at pbpcp@yahoo.com or Paul.B.Plunkett@uscg.mil. 236-2976 or 235-2443.

The Tinian Mayor's Office has been instrumental in organizing and backing the boat charter and arranging the bicycle Fun Ride on Saturday morning.

Registration is also being accepted for the co-ed Tinian Hot Pepper Festival 4-Person Beach Volleyball Tournament 2012.

Bring bike and travel to Tinian on a boat

The big Tinian Pika Festival is this weekend and the Tinian Mayor's Office prepared great bike rides on Saturday, Feb. 18.

Starting about 8:30am upon arrival on Tinian, there will be a mountain bike ride and a road bike course for those that prefer tires on pavement. Short or long versions can tailor your ride to your own needs, conditioning level, and enjoyment. Other impromptu rides will be available too. But you don't need a bike to join and can enjoy the boat ride and Tinian festivities with or without one.

Both Saturday and Sunday, the boat leaves Saipan at 6am and returns from Tinian at 1pm. Meet at the Outer Cove Marina, *Stars and Stripes* dock space early enough to board and pack your bike if bringing one. Not

later than 5:30am is highly recommended as the boat leaves promptly at 6am and all bikes need to be secured before then. Bring a blanket, cardboard, or other padding for your bike and a few bungee cords or some tie down rope.

The cost for this unique opportunity to enjoy Tinian, biking, the Pika Festival, and a romantic boat ride on this Valentine's Day week is only \$49 round trip with those under 4 years old free. Advance payments are requested by noon on Friday. Bring payments to either

Paul at 236-2976 or on the 5th floor of the Horiguchi Building or to Bruce by calling 287-0687.

For those wanting to stay over Saturday night and return at 1pm Sunday there are several Tinian hotels with double room specials: Tinian Dynasty at \$77 including tax and offers free pick up (328-2233), Fleming Hotel at \$66 (433-3233/3232), Lorilynn's Hotel at \$45 (433-3256), and Main Street Hotel at \$38.50. The Tinian Mayor's Office also set aside a conveniently located beach for free camping. (PR)

Entrance in the 2-day friendly competition is free, with registration slated for 10am on Saturday. Cash prizes of \$150 (first place), \$100 (second place), and \$75 (third place)

Free sailing clinic at Tinian festival

The newly formed Marianas Sailing Club will be holding a free sailing clinic at the eighth annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival this Saturday.

The group will set up on the beach west of Tinian Port, with their 8-foot *El Toro* sailing dinghies for the free sailing clinic that will be held from 11am to 3pm.

According to club commodore David E. Johansen, the group intends to sail from Saipan with three 25-foot sailboats carrying approximately 20 people, arriving on Tinian

will be awarded. Volleyball match details are available at www.nmivolleyball.org.

For more information on the Tinian Hot Pepper Festival or to register for the volleyball

tournament, contact the MVA Tinian office at 433-9365 or e-mail Vida Borja at vborja@my-marianas.com or Frank Tudela at 664-3210 or e-mail ftudela@mymarianas.com. (MVA)

or is on his own.

The group will also bring some kayaks for rescue/water safety patrol in order to maintain the perimeter of the clinic.

The sailing clinic is free for anyone interested. For those who want to join the club, the annual dues are \$25 for a single adult person or \$40 per family unit. (PR)

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George Joseph Sablan passes away at 41

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A CNMI soldier died after collapsing during physical training at a U.S. Army camp in Honolulu, Hawaii last Feb. 10.

The death of Sgt. George Joseph Affatica Sablan, fondly known to everybody as Keoki or George in Hawaiian, came as a shock for his entire family on Saipan. He was 41.

"If he was having any symptoms, he apparently didn't share it with anybody. It was a shock for everyone," said Keoki's mother, Janice Affatica Sablan, told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at their home yesterday.

Janice Sablan said she received a call about Keoki's collapse from her niece, who got the information from someone who was in training with her son.

"When we got the call, not only was I stunned; after I hung up, my first thought also was, is this really true?" said Janice Sablan.

Janice Sablan then asked her sister who lives in Hawaii to call the hospital to confirm Keoki's death.

"I just don't have words to put in how shocked and stunned not only my husband and I were but the entire fam-

ily because he never indicated to anybody that he was having any kind of problems," she said.

Keoki was born on Oct. 23, 1970, and is the second of three children of Janice and former mayor Jose "George Pitu" Camacho Sablan. His brother and sister are Saipan Shipping Co.'s Alex Sablan and Leilani Sablan Matsumoto, who is now based in Japan.

Keoki, who is an alumnus of Marianas High School, is survived by his wife, Consolacion Muna Sablan, and their daughters, 7-year-old Heaven Muna Hocog and 5-year-old Keavonnie Muna Sablan.

Janice Sablan recounted how thrilled her husband was when Keoki joined the military. She felt exactly the opposite because of the dangers of the job.

"He's willing to die for his country," Janice Sablan said of her son, who was also proud of his island roots.

Keoki's tours of duty, Janice Sablan said, were all in Afghanistan and he would describe the beauty of its sky at night and the gorgeous landscapes.

"He was a person who could be going through hell but still admire the beauty of his surroundings as well,"



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Janice Affatica Sablan reminisces about her son, U.S. Army soldier George Joseph "Keoki" Affatica Sablan, in an interview in their residence yesterday morning. Keoki, 41, collapsed and died during physical training in Honolulu, Hawaii last Feb. 10.

said Janice Sablan. "It was nice to hear that for his sake, he was able to see not just death and destruction but the beauty as well."

Janice Sablan last saw her son in

April and May of last year, when they had a joint celebration of her birthday and Mother's Day. For those special occasions, she received a nice and easy-to-use digital camera from Keoki.

According to her, Keoki always had a great sense of humor even when he was very young. "He had a way of making us all laugh."

She added that nobody hugs like Keoki. "He gave such great hugs—not just one-arm hug but he would give you a full body hug with his face on your neck and I'm going to miss that the most," said Janice Sablan, wiping away tears.

Nowadays, Janice Sablan pictures Keoki with his departed grandparents, aunts, and uncles, telling jokes and sharing a good laugh.

"If I had one last goodbye with him, I think he'll be hugging me and say, it's going to be okay, mom," she added.

Keoki's brother, Alex Sablan, said they enjoyed doing everything together when they were young, going around a college town in New Hampshire where they spent their early years.

"He was a natural that if you meet him for the first time, it's as if you've

known him forever. He was able to carry on conversations with anybody and I really admire him for that. He was always smiling; nothing ever bothered him," said Alex Sablan.

Keoki's best friend, Ed Propst, said he had the biggest heart and one of his most admirable qualities was his ability to forgive.

"He will always have a place in our hearts and he will forever live on in our fond memories," said Propst. "Keoki Sablan lived life to its fullest."

Since news about his death became known, there was an outpouring of loving messages for Keoki's family through Facebook, phone calls, and emails from soldiers, their families, and other people around the world who knew their beloved Keoki.

"It's overwhelming and definitely heartwarming. We feel so grateful to all of them," said Janice Sablan.

Keoki's remains will be flown to Saipan on the early morning of Feb. 22. There will be a public viewing on the day of the funeral on Feb. 24. Nightly rosary is offered at 7pm at Mount Carmel Cathedral in Susupe.

ARMY

From Page 1

Takemoto, in an interview at the I-Denni removal site, said the Army Corps is cleaning up the area so that it could be made available for "unrestricted use."

The Department of Public Lands will use the site, once it is cleaned up, for homestead subdivisions.

To date, 294 cubic yards of PCB-tainted soil and over 800 cubic yards of metal contaminated or lead-tainted soil have been removed from the site.

The over 1,000 cubic yards of soil so far removed have already exceeded the original estimate of up to 600 cubic yards.

PCB-tainted soil is placed in white jumbo sacks of 1 cubic yard each, brought to the seaport for shipment to Beatty, Nevada for proper disposal.

Metal-contaminated soil, meanwhile, are loaded in trucks for disposal at the Marpi landfill.

Tainted soil has been removed from surface to 3 feet and 5 feet deep.

"We would take a sample and then see if it meets the level, if not, we'll dig a little bit more, take a sample. If it does not meet the level, then we'll take another sample. And that's how we're

doing it. Once we think it's clean, then we take confirmation sample then send it off to the laboratory and the laboratory verifies our field sampling, saying it's clean, then we move on," Takemoto said.

They are waiting for laboratory test results to come back from Berkeley, California.

"If we find no further contamination, we'll be finished hopefully by the end of this month," she said, but if they find more contamination, removal could stretch to end of March.

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (R-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Health, said yesterday while he's glad to hear that Army Corps does not consider the levels found in I-Denni as "high," he said the agency should share its detailed findings to the public.

Iguel, who was active in pushing for federal cleanup of Tanapag of PCB tainted soil years back, said back in 1999, he and other villagers heard federal agencies say Tanapag is "safe only to find out after testing which we strongly pushed for that it's not safe that's why they spent \$20 million to clean up the village."

"I hope Army Corps provides the findings to the public concerning I-Denni. Anybody can claim anything," Iguel told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said groundwater in the surrounding area should be tested.

Takemoto said Army Corps already tested the groundwater "and we didn't find any Department of Defense contamination."

The cleanup cost is currently at \$603,543.73, and the cost could go up as the volume of tainted soil exceeds the original estimate. The Army Corps contractor is the Hawaii-based Wil-Chee Planning Inc.

The 1.4-acre site lies approximately in the center of a 7.43-acre undeveloped parcel owned by DPL. This parcel is surrounded by residential dwellings, a boat repair facility, and dense jungle vegetation.

The removal of tainted soil in I-Denni comes nine years after Army Corps completed a \$20 million PCB cleanup of Tanapag. The PCB cleanup was completed in 2003 involving 40,000 tons of PCB-tainted soil.

Besides I-Denni, there are nine other formerly used defense sites on Saipan that require remediation, Sablan said. These include the Hospital Dump Site, American Memorial Park, Naftan Bomb Storage, Ordnance Plan, Naftan Ordnance Disposal, North Field, Marpi Point Field, Tanapag Fuel Farm, and Koblerville Naval Supply Center.

amid the increase," she said.

Santos also said that if only the CNMI has a public transportation system, people may be able to save on fuel consumption.

"Since there is none, it is advisable to travel out of need, not for pleasure," she added.

As of yesterday afternoon, Tinian stations had yet to change prices, but they are expected to follow suit.

Saipan's pump prices went up by up to 15 cents on Tuesday night at Mobil Oil Mariana Islands service stations. Shell Marianas mirrored Mobil's gas price changes yesterday morning.

Saipan's regular gas is now \$5.059 a gallon, blowing past the psychological barrier of \$5 and matching the CNMI's minimum wage of \$5.05 an hour.

Super unleaded gasoline now costs \$5.379 a gallon at both Mobil and Shell

stations.

Diesel at Mobil stations is \$5.409 a gallon while at Shell stations, \$5.419 a gallon.

This is the third time since January that gas prices went up. This means CNMI motorists are now paying 35 cents more than what they used to pay at the start of the year.

Mobil and Shell do not issue advance notices for any gas price change.

Prices of gasoline are determined by a number of factors, including changes in the world market wholesale prices of gasoline, regional gasoline supply and demand balance, transportation costs, insurance, local distribution, marketing costs, government regulations, taxes, competitive market forces, and investments in retail stations and distribution terminals.

NMC

From Page 1

dation has "limited" activity.

Among the benefits of having an additional foundation, Lizama said, is that it will give the body a lot of "flexibility and autonomy" but with the sole purpose of raising money for the college. He cited Guam as an example of an institution that has had success in having a separate foundation from the college.

"There's no hidden agenda in this [proposal]," he added.

The proposal was opposed by fellow regents Elaine Orilla, William Torres, and Andrew Orsini, who all questioned the necessity of creating a second foundation for the college. They pointed out that the NMC Foundation has been doing a great job in raising funds for the college.

"We have an existing foundation and what I am hearing today is you want to create another new foundation for NMC so the original foundation will just become custodian of the endowment fund? But I thought the original foundation also has another mission,

which is to fundraise for NMC," said Orilla yesterday.

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart explained that the NMC Foundation—as custodian of the land grant for the college—is under the "oversight" of the government or the federal agency.

"Yes, I understand madam president that there is an oversight. But it's only if there are some fraud and misspending. I just don't see [the need of] having another foundation," said Orilla.

Orsini emphasized the need to present to the regents an in-depth analysis of the implications of having another foundation that will completely be out of the board's jurisdiction.

Torres, who admitted to not having a lot of knowledge about the current status of the NMC Foundation, expressed dismay that financial updates have not been provided as requested since he came onboard. He said he was also shocked by the decision of former NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta to resign. Torres asked Lizama to refer the issue to the newly revived finance and budget committee for further review and evaluation.

REMAINS

From Page 1

not elaborate.

This contradicts the statement made by Department of Public Safety Commissioner Ramon Mafnas, who said in a news briefing on Monday that the family's plan to bring Romero's remains to the Philippines this weekend "is not going to happen."

Mafnas had said that Romero's remains can only be flown to the Philippines when all forensic evaluations have been performed. He did not elaborate on the specific forensic evaluations that still need to be done.

Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham confirmed yesterday that chief prosecutor Prestley had indeed authorized the release of Romero's body since Monday.

When asked what was causing the delay in releasing the body, Buckingham said in an email that "the loss of life in a homicide is a tragedy and any delay is understood to be frustrating."

Buckingham said that because the circumstances in this case indicated a possible homicide, an autopsy was re-

quested. Because of fiscal limitations, he said the Commonwealth does not have an on-island capacity to perform autopsies.

Buckingham said that Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola is the CNMI's primary resource when an autopsy is required.

The OAG, he said, expedited a decision on having an autopsy performed and also expedited contact with Dr. Espinola to perform the autopsy.

"Dr. Espinola, in turn, arrived on Saipan as soon as he could," Buckingham said.

Espinola conducted the autopsy at CHC's morgue a few hours after FBI agents found Romero's body on Feb. 7 at the northernmost building of the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque.

Mafnas has refused to release the autopsy results to the media.

The sealed casket of Romero will be taken to Kristo Rai Church today, Friday, at 12pm for a Mass. Relata said that public viewing will follow the Mass until 2pm.

Romero, a bartender at Godfather's Bar, was last seen alive boarding a green or blue tinted sedan around 3am on Feb. 5 in Garapan.

ROTA

From Page 1

gas will no longer last two weeks. I try not to use my car if it's not really necessary, except to go to work."

Luta Gas increased its pump price at the opening of business yesterday, while Sasanhaya Service Station followed at 11am on Rota.

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) described as "outrageous" the \$6 gas on Rota.

"It is important that any increase in gas prices should be looked into as it's becoming outrageous. ... Whenever gas prices increase, most households would have to suppress their budget in purchasing goods as they have less discretionary income. The lower-income households would be the hardest hit

Glenn Muña is named new associate commissioner of PSS

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System has a new permanent associate commissioner, a position that has been vacant for many years.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Glenn Muña was appointed to the position on Feb. 6.

Muña is a former principal

of Oleai Elementary School. Jack Sablan takes over as principal of Oleai school.

"We're very happy with his appointment. Glenn was appointed on Feb. 6 and he went through an extensive interview process. This is an internal competitive position we opened to anybody in PSS to apply," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

According to Sablan, Muña

was one of two applicants who went through a rigorous interview process with four different panels.

Muña takes over the post vacated last year by former acting associate commissioner for administrative services Peter Leau.

David Borja was the last associate commissioner to occupy the post in a permanent capacity. He left the post to become the education commis-

sioner, the post now occupied by Sablan.

Sablan disclosed that since Leau's departure, the post has been announced internally. She said the human resource office got four inquiries but only two actually submitted formal applications. The two candidates were interviewed by a panel of

administrators, a panel of instructional staffers, a panel of the education board members, and a panel of the HR and finance and budget offices.

Sablan is confident that Muña's more than seven years' experience will aid him in his new job. His functions include oversee-

ing emergency management at PSS, procurement office, students' nutrition program, pupil transportation, capital improvement project office, data management, and E-Rate and network programs, among others.

PSS has an enrolment of nearly 11,000 this school year.

Man pleads guilty to immigration document fraud

A man facing immigration document fraud charges in federal court pleaded guilty yesterday as part of a plea deal with the U.S. government.

Mohammed Shoukat Bhuiyan pleaded guilty to count 3 of the indictment that charged him with immigration document fraud. He will be sentenced on May 22. He was allowed to remain free on bail until then.

According to court papers, Bhuiyan, a Bangladesh national, lied in his Oct. 13, 2008, application for adjustment of status to lawful permanent resident.

Part of the application form asks the question: "Have you, by fraud or willful misrep-

resentation of a material fact, ever sought to procure, or procured any immigration benefit?" Bhuiyan answered no.

Bhuiyan knew his response was false since he sought immigration status as a permanent resident of the U.S. by claiming to have lived with wife, Delora Taman Bhuiyan from 2007 until Oct. 13, 2008. Bhuiyan knew this was false since he had not in fact lived with Delora Taman Bhuiyan for that period.

Last month, Delora Bhuiyan pleaded guilty to a count of immigration document fraud. Her sentencing will be on April 13, 2012.

U.S. District Court for the

NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona is presiding over the present case. Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton is prosecuting. Court-appointed counsel Colin Thompson serves as counsel for the defendant. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents arrested last week a woman who allegedly sold methamphetamine or "ice" in Garapan.

Yue Xin Tang, a Chinese national, was brought to the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday for her initial court appearance.

U.S. District Court for the

NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe's request to unseal the complaint charging Tang with two counts of distribution of a controlled substance.

Manglona set the detention hearing and the arraignment on Feb. 24, 2012 at 9am.

Loren Sutton served as court-appointed counsel for Tang.

According to DEA special agent Jacqueline R. Gordon, they were able to buy \$150 and \$700 worth of "ice" from Tang using a confidential source on Oct. 27, 2011, and Nov. 9, 2011.

The special agent said the test of DEA Southwest Laboratory confirmed that the items received from Tang were in fact "ice." *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 103 patients are now

being treated at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s new hemodialysis center.

Unit manager Karlo Reyes

Over 100 patients being treated at new hemodialysis center

described the patient number steady. He said the hemodialysis center took care of 102 patients in July last year. He believes, however, that

more people are being diagnosed and seek treatment outside of the facility.


There are two hemodialysis facilities on island: one at the Commonwealth Health Center and at the St. Jude dialysis center at Saipan Health Clinic, a private organization. St. Jude Renal clinic staff refused to disclose yesterday the number of their patients but based on the data of the U.S. Department of Human and Health Services, it had 52 patients in July last year.

Within a 10-year period, from 2001 through 2011, the number of hemodialysis patients on the islands doubled from 80 to 159.

According to Reyes, 15 percent of the current dialysis patients at the Commonwealth Health Center are non-U.S. citizens who have no insurance coverage. Although a few of them have payment terms with the hospital, he said many are subsidized by the public hospital, which cannot turn away patients.

Healthcare corporation officials earlier disclosed that the hospital spends from \$1.2 million to \$1.5 million a year to treat these non-insured dialysis patients, excluding their medicines.

Reyes said that more and more patients are being diagnosed with chronic kidney conditions based on number of emergency cases at the hospital. An undiagnosed kidney failure usually leads to emergency treatment.




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Kilili commends Fitia on CIP speed-up; 'risk remains'

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a letter to Gov. Benigno R. Fitia this week, CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan commended Fitia and his capital improvements project team for the faster spending of grants from the federal government. The current expenditure rate is 36 percent, up from last year's 32 percent.

But Sablan advised the governor that funds are still at risk of being reprogrammed by the Interior Department. A proposal in the budget submitted to Congress by President Obama on Monday would allow Interior to move CIP funds from the any territory whose expenditure rate is below 50 percent.

This is not the first time the President has asked Congress for authority to take CIP funds

from any territory that is slow in spending. The President's budget made the same proposal last year.

Sablan, however, was able to block the President's proposal. It was removed from the annual appropriation bill for the Department of the Interior, which provides annual CIP grants to the Northern Marianas, American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Sablan argued that there are valid reasons for the delays in spending. CIP projects often cost more than any one-year's grant, so the CNMI has to "save" grant funds from year to year until there is enough avail-

able to start larger projects.

One example is the Puerto Rico dump closure and environmental restoration. Costs

have been estimated at \$12 million, yet the Commonwealth has only been receiving around \$10 million in recent years. And the dump is not the only project competing for those funds. The CIP grant has to be allocated among numerous important projects on three different islands. So it takes time to "save" enough funds for a project on the scale of the Puerto Rico dump closure.

Sablan also convinced appropriators to reject the proposal to reprogram CIP funds from one territory to another because

there is already a mechanism to reward areas that get projects moving quickly.

The 2004 Section 702 Funding Agreement between the Interior Department and the CNMI set up competitive standards that determine how much CIP each territory is granted each year. One of those standards is how quickly a territory spends its CIP grants. So slower spenders get smaller grants.

Under the competitive performance standards system the Commonwealth has been getting smaller CIP grants over the years. In fiscal 2005 the CNMI grant was \$12.5 million. For 2013 the CIP grant will be just \$8.7 million. This amount is not controlled by Congress, but is the result of the competitive system the CNMI agreed to in 2004. (PR)



Sablan

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 17, 1999

Governor thumbs down lands bill

A proposed measure envisioned to prevent loss of agricultural lands to development projects and curb CNMI's dependence on imported farm products by extending agricultural and grazing permits to five years was disapproved by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on grounds that it would tie the hands of government agencies in managing public lands. The proposal also provides for compensation of \$10,000 to permit holders whose permit will be terminated other than failure to comply with requirements. But Tenorio said he preferred the existing regulation that gives one-year permit that is renewable subject to availability of agricultural lands.

CPA continues to argue on fees hike

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Carlos H. Salas has maintained that the Legislature would have to appropriate financial support to the agency to avoid any interruption in its airport services if it does not push through with the planned rate increases. In a speech before Pacific Aviation Directors workshop in Honolulu, Salas said the planned rate hike has become "unavoidable" to cover operating expenses and debt service payments despite strong opposition from the public and the private sector. But Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has ruled out any bailout for the financially troubled ports authority since the executive branch could hardly raise the \$5 million to \$6 million payroll requirement for the more than 4,000 government employees brought about by shrinking revenues.

Feb. 17, 2000

Teno: Exemptions satisfy moratorium law

The labor and immigration department has reviewed all hiring moratorium exemptions granted by the administration to ensure complete compliance with existing local labor laws, according to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio. Mr. Tenorio said the Department of Labor and Immigration reviews all exemption applications submitted to his office to identify which among the requests meet the requirements set by the hiring moratorium law. He noted that most of the exemption applications need professional and skilled manpower which is currently not available from the existing local labor force. The governor is confident his actions pertaining to the granting of exemptions were in full compliance with Public Law 11-6, citing the thorough review each application undergoes at the DOLI.

DYS seeks master plan to strengthen criminal justice system

Due to limited financial resources, a master plan for the criminal justice system must be drafted soon to help draw up priority areas and assist the administration in channeling funds to prevention programs. According to Division of Youth Services Director Eloise Furey, the number of the people participating in the various prevention programs of the Division has considerably increased, putting a tremendous pressure on the agency. "I am not asking for more money but the reality here is if we set up more prison beds, then we will see less and less support for prevention programs," she said.

Feb. 17, 2003

Dialysis centers on Tinian, Rota in the offing?

Following the lifting of federal sanctions against him, Dr. Vicente Aldan now looks forward to pursuing his long-overdue goal: to set up hemodialysis centers on Rota and Tinian. In a media briefing last week, Aldan said his company now awaits the signing of a loan agreement with the Marianas Public Lands Trust for the two projects amounting to \$3.4 million. "We're now able to pursue our projects. We are on the verge of signing an agreement to build a first class dialysis center on Rota and Tinian. Once signed, we will do the construction in about three months from now. Hopefully, they would be finished before December," said Aldan.

CRMO cancels citation vs CUC on sewage overflow

Recognizing efforts to address the perennial sewage overflow at the Tanapag Social Hall, the Coastal Resources Management Office rescinded Friday the citation it had issued against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for violating environmental regulations. CRMO administrator Joaquin D. Salas acknowledged that CUC has plans to further improve its sewage system, besides the recent upgrading of its T-1 lift station in Tanapag.

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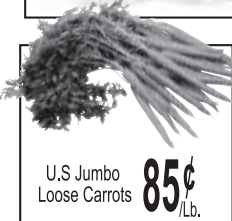
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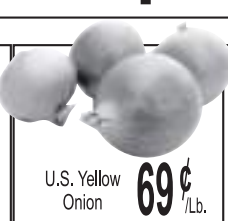
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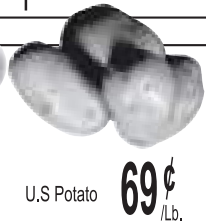
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Opinion

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EDITORIAL

What about the US debt?

The day after the Greek Parliament approved another round of deep spending cuts in the face of violent protests, President Obama released a budget proposal for the coming fiscal year that offers no real solution to the United States' long-term fiscal problems. This country is hardly Greece, but Washington's current policies put it on a path to accumulate far too much debt. With the U.S. economy improving, it's past time for the administration to lay out a credible plan for bringing the deficit and debt under control. Sadly, Obama's budget proposal shows that he'd rather wait until after the election to have that reckoning.

Congress makes the ultimate decisions about taxes and spending, so the annual budget proposal from the White House typically serves as the opening bid in a months-long debate. This president, however, has waited for Republicans and Congress to go first on the tougher fiscal issues. On Monday, Obama even called on Congress to reverse one of the more difficult decisions it had made, which was to impose \$1.2 trillion in across-the-board spending cuts on discretionary programs over the next decade.

In place of those cuts, the president offered a mixture of real steps to reduce the deficit—including nearly \$2 trillion in additional taxes over the coming decade, mainly at the expense of high-income Americans—and bogus ones, such as almost \$850 billion in "savings" from the previously planned end of foreign combat operations, a chunk of which would be spent on infrastructure and jobs programs. The one bright spot: Obama didn't ignore the rapid and unsustainable growth in health-care entitlements, as he did in last year's budget. Instead, he called for saving about \$360 billion over 10 years on those programs, in part by paying drug companies less for medicines prescribed to low-income Medicare patients.

There's little chance this Congress will agree to many, or even any, of those suggestions. Tax increases seem particularly unlikely. But even if lawmakers were to adopt all of Obama's deficit-cutting measures, they wouldn't go far enough to set the budget on a path toward balance. Obama's proposals would stop the debt from growing faster than the economy eventually, but inexorably rising healthcare costs would make the respite temporary. All told, his proposal comes up about \$2 trillion short of the savings his own deficit-reduction commission called for over 10 years. The economy may not be ready yet for a stiff dose of austerity, but the government needs a better plan for putting its fiscal house in order than Obama offered Monday.

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Vowels in the island chain

Two fishes in the chain of islands of Hawaii are the *Humuhumunukunua* 'a, the State fish, and another, the *Lau Wiliwilinukunukuioi*. There's a joke that the spelling of the State fish is longer than the size of the fish itself! In a language that has five full vowels and only seven (or eight on another list) consonants, pronouncing every vowel have words swaying like the waves of the Pacific crashing on the hula hip, and gracefully mirrored in the hands and the fingers.

To be sure, we still like to chuckle over *Likelike* Highway, and we certainly will not refuse the offer of *pū-pū*, which is a relish, appetizer, canapé, or hors d'oeuvre, that was surely affirmed by the Catonese *buobuo*, of small precious treasures. My children loved to pooh-pooh the *pū-pū* because it sounded too much like the poo-poo, but no matter. The alliteration is just too good to pass up.

Along with the Hawaiian *uoiau*, the longest vowel-only word (seven letters) denoting a lava type, Pea Eye calls a particular stream an *ouenouaou*. Our Austro-Polynesian pot of memes resonates from distant and ancient traditions. We are people of the vowel sounds.

Something about the softness of the vowels against the rough edges of the gutturals and the shrill of the labials keeps our ears tuned to the islanders' ways, more so now that the world clamors for models on how to sustain a global society whose make-up is taking on the rainbow coloration.

Though Mark Twain thought the islands are the "loveliest fleets of islands that lies anchored in any ocean," Hawaii is no honky-dory haven for neighborliness and social camaraderie. Not too long ago, a comedian recalls his growing up discriminated in swimming pools by the sign *No Flipping*. "Flips" referred to Filipinos as "Chinks" served *wonton* soup with their *jiao zi* (dumplings). The monarchy was an oligarchy, even as the American usurpers were also status conscious and hierarchically structured.

Nor is Hawaii the only group of islands in the world mirroring a globalized population. We are, in fact, reverting to the World Island (contiguous Europe, Africa and Asia) image as national boundaries does not contain homogenous societies. Still, Hawaii is the most integrated State in the Union, the only one where Americans of European-descent do not predominate.

To be sure, everyone's DNA points to a single source in West Africa. It is not, however, the chromosomal packaging that interests us but the behavior patterns and structures created to bring serenity and tranquility in our relationships. We began by noticing the vowels and their dominant role in the Hawaiian language compared to the consonants, perhaps influencing behavior as well. Or so we thought, until we remember that we also have in the complex world-wide glossarial Britannica, 12 vowel sounds, 7 diphthongs, and 24 consonants.

To paraphrase the *ain't the meat, it's the motion* phrase, it is not the "sound but the singing" that makes a difference, which is to say,

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergara2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



language focus is on use rather than calcified substance. That's why singing is an integral part of our English pedagogy!

Hawaii in my imagination is singing, lulling, and languidly languishing under the swaying palm trees casting eerie shadows from the quarter moon. That's before Ko'olina in Kapolei brought the Disney touch close to the Makaha shores. When one does the singing by buying consonants rather than vowels as one does on "The Price is Right," then it takes some doing to extricate one's self from this isles in the Pacific. One gets swallowed by the vowels.

We exited on hard and rough consonants. We said *Aloha* again to *la familia*, and with various types of dysfunctionality amongst kin where one would think we had every reason to cling to each other for affection, if not support, we wallowed in recrimination and remorse instead.

Then there was the security at the Honolulu International Airport that was all impersonal cold technology and straight poker faced functionality. There was hardly any poetry either in speaking tones or in motion, so we hummed quietly with the wafting chorus of angels in the deep recesses of the ocean's soul, or echoes of *wahine* voices from Ala Wai.

When was it that we in America decided to dehumanize what used to be ambience of ukulele strums, now processing a polyglot of humans like pieces of meat suspected of carrying either toxic chemicals or explosive metals, just so we can feel safe? We certainly missed a few Asian and Pacific amity beats in the process. The sights and sounds were patently and strictly gruff, full of consonants.

We are skipping the *Hafa'adai* at the Ada International Airport this term. GovCNMI has yet to release our rebate check so we have no reason nor the means to stop by, but we did light a candle for NMPASI's Tom, AS-CNMI's Bobbi and the folks at the Saturday Autism Awareness Nite, if only to remind us that in a world seemingly gone crazy with nothing but consonants, vowels much more abound!

We didn't fish for the *Humuhumunukunua* 'a, or the *Lau Wiliwilinukunukuioi*. But we kept the vowels.

So once more with feelings, we inhale and exhale, *Aloha wau ia 'oe. OM!*

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Impregnable, indeed

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
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“Impregnable” is a mighty loaded term, and I’m not just talking about the salacious details of your dating life, either. No, I’m talking about the military context, as here in the Asia-Pacific a 70-year milestone for a very instructive battle is being marked, namely the British surrender of Singapore.

Heck of a story, that. Singapore was said to be an “impregnable fortress,” but wound up being an example of a Western power falling down another notch in its grip on the East. The anniversary was marked in the (U.K.) *Telegraph*’s Feb. 14 edition, and I’ll put a link to the article on my website.

Drawing from the *Telegraph* story, “War vets to mark 70 years since ‘largest capitulation in British history’ in Singapore,” by Malcolm Moore and David Blair, the basic gig here is that a defensive force of 80,000 British and allied (from their empire) troops were defeated by 30,000 invading Japanese troops. The British surrender delivered its troops to the tender mercies of the Japanese prisoner of war system, and one-quarter of the troops didn’t survive it.

Letters to the Editor

Basic Police Science 101 for DPS

I certainly am not an expert in the field of law enforcement but I can offer some simple tried-and-true techniques.

Traffic enforcement. This is totally nonexistent on island. Traffic officers should be proficient in this area as it is their major responsibility. I see them in parades, but have yet to see one writing a ticket. I see officers in their patrol vehicles aiming a radar gun at passing traffic, but again, no tickets. Position yourself anywhere on Middle Road or Beach Road and watch the speeders. I would invite anyone to sit at any traffic signal and watch the number of vehicles running the red light. It is a proven fact in traffic enforcement that when tickets go up, accidents go down.

Copper wire theft. I read about this all the time but never hear of the suspects being arrested. This is absurd. How many places on island buy copper wire? I believe mostly everyone now owns a cell phone or a digital camera, capable of taking pictures. Would it be difficult to require the owners of the salvage yards to photograph the sellers of copper wire?

Burglaries. Most items taken in the many burglaries end up in the pawnshops. To wit: TVs, stereos, computers, laptops, watches, jewelry, etc. Again, is it so difficult to require the owners to photograph the sellers?

Homicides. How many unsolved murders are in the police files? Saipan is the perfect venue for the television series *Unsolved Mysteries*. I question the DPS in their handling of emergency calls. For example, the recent brutal murder of Emerita Romero. The 911 dispatcher received a call at approximately 3am with the female voice saying, ‘Marianas Resort.’ This should be basic police emergency procedure. Available patrol units are dispatched to the area. There is but one road to this location and how many vehicles are on this road? The officers should stop all vehicles and ID the occupants. Perhaps one of these persons is a pastry chef on the way to work in the morning shift. A simple explanation that DPS received an emergency call to the area and, “Thank you for your understandings” would suffice. The murder probably would not have been prevented but DPS would have the ID of persons in the vicinity.

Commissioner Mafanas is constantly saying that DPS is understaffed. Mr. Mafnas, what is your minimal staff doing? Not too much is visible. This is a small island and the crime rate should be relatively low. It is not! DPS must stop its familial rationalization and start arresting, brothers, cousins, and uncles.

Saipan is beautiful and we should not continually live in fear. DPS, please perform the duties you are being paid to do.

Hector Delgado

Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

The British Commanding Officer was Lt. Gen. Arthur Percival, and he did survive captivity.

Japan attacked by coming down from the north, sweeping down the Malay peninsula, while, by contrast, the British had geared up to defend against an amphibious attack from the south. I’ll let WWII experts ponder the wherefores on this one, it mystifies me, but maybe we can say that your enemy gets to choose how he comes at you, and he doesn’t have to accept your preferences. If that’s not a lesson that applies to overall life, then what else does?

The main reason cited for the Japanese success was that the Japanese cut off the water supply and captured the British food supply, and the British were also running out of ammo and gas.

Well, as the saying goes, “Amateurs talk strategy, professionals talk logistics.”

In fact, I wanted to get a professional take on this story, so I ran it by a friend from my military days. I was naval officer, he was an officer of Marines, so this Singapore thing is more in his realm than mine. He sent along some observations, based on his experience and training, which I’ll break into two nuggets of wisdom:

“War is logistics—not all, but easily 80 percent. One good thing about the Marines is they dispense with the romance of cavalry maneuvers and charges. War is basically about smashing the heck out of the enemy, which requires huge amounts of ammunition, fuel, spare parts, food, and water, which is easily forgotten (by amateurs). The British had no supply and no hope of resupply.”

Another observation:

Reclaiming CNMI self-government

“If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher,” Abraham Lincoln observed in 1838. It’s a relevant quote, putting into perspective how Congress has turned the federal government into an “administrative state,” according to Dr. Mathew Spalding, director of the B. Kenneth Simon Center for American Studies at the Heritage Foundation.

Said he, “Congress passes massive pieces of legislation with little serious deliberation and is increasingly an administrative body overseeing a vast array of bureaucratic policymakers and rule-making bodies. Although the Constitution vests legislative powers in Congress, the majority of ‘laws’ are promulgated by administrative agencies under the guise of ‘regulations’—a form of rule by bureaucrats who are mostly unaccountable and invisible to the public.” It’s important to know that the creation of “lordship” of federal bureaucrats is far removed from the basic principle of the “consent of the governed.”

Spalding quoted Alexis de Tocqueville who “warned of a tendency of democracies, bent on bringing about equal results in all cases, to succumb to a centralized and consolidated government that promises to master every social condition and outcome in pursuit of this elusive goal. Government would become the all-powerful instrument serving these insatiable appetites. Self-governing citizens would degrade themselves into passive subjects of an impersonal, bureaucratic nation-state.”

If you will, people could normally resolve differences on most major issues but they shy from doing so as to allow government to step in. When it does, we surrender what’s rightfully ours and in the process allow government to gain control over our lives, as it waxes more intrusive via the law of unintended consequences. The symbiosis is self-perpetuating. The U.S. Constitution is the paramount law of the land. It gave the federal government limited power. It provides for representative institutions, not lords in a federal nation-state.

To acquiesce federal intrusion is itself a quiet admission that it is fine to compromise self-government that can only hail from the “consent of the governed.” Federal lords would feed upon an authority that was never granted them by the U.S. Constitution. Thus, it would be exacting a government that dictates whimsically. This must be denied forthwith!

The Obama administration has forked out some 84 major regulations, excluding future regulations. No wonder the convulsion of the national economy sputtering to death. Too, there are 144 major pending regulations that would cost \$100 million each. It seems the new role of our national government is analogous to a stagecoach careening wildly with people’s money, trampling pedestrians and smashing everything on its way. If you will, this is what they did to the local economy—trampled it into total paralysis.

Given the economic hardship forced by federal laws of sheer uncertainty and paralyzing economic contraction, it is imperative that leadership collectively pins down explicitly the additional costs piled on private industries since the imposition of federal immigration and minimum wage. Let’s show this to sponsors of the two laws. It’s also good to know exactly how these federal impositions have sent the local economy into convulsion now hooked to life support of some sort, awaiting its last breath.

Dr. Spalding warns all citizens of the task ahead: “We must restore America’s principles—the truths to which we are dedicated—

“Percival had no reasonable options. British assumptions about how an attack would go were wrong. As is normal with military matters, the guy on the scene gets the blame even though he had no control.”

Of course, the British weren’t the only big power to succumb to Japanese advances in that epoch. The U.S., too, wound up waving a white flag, specifically in the Philippines, hence the famous “I shall return” declaration of Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Fast forwarding to today, this stuff serves as just a couple of reminders, to me, anyway, that the stakes are mighty high in Asia, and that you can’t take anything for granted when things get interesting. I think we’ll see changes as many nations decide that they’d rather have extra defense than a deficit of it. When things move, and they will someday, they will move fast; you can’t order up a defense posture in arrears, there’s no option on the menu for that. That’s why there is an arms race brewing.

Looking back at Singapore, as in modern, sovereign Singapore, it is now one of the world’s greatest economic success stories. And it didn’t get successful by wasting money. Still, Singapore spends around 4.5 percent of its economy on defense, which is a lot compared to most other nations, and, in fact, is roughly twice the global average. Maybe the events of 70 years ago had something to do with this, it sure seems logical to me.

Lessons learned? I’ll summarize four. Nothing is impregnable just because somebody says it is; a guarantee is only as good as the guarantor; you can get hit where you are weakest, not strongest; and logistics is a very big deal.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



as the central idea of our nation’s public philosophy. But before we can rededicate ourselves as a nation to these principles we must rediscover them as a people. Only when we know these principles once again can we renew America.

“Only when we understand the significance of these principles can we grasp the nobility of our accomplishments as a people and see how far we have strayed off course as a nation. Only then can we realize the societal choices before us and begin to develop a strategy to reclaim our future.”

We also must do likewise. Our narrative is simple: Tell the feds self-government is founded on “the consent of the governed.” We’re not ready to settle for lordships.

Difficult as it may seem

Understandably, most politicians here would be at a loss if they were to navigate the principle of the “consent of the governed.” It is demonstrative of the incipency and obvious intransigence of the elected elite to return to basics so they can understand what those principles say especially as it relates to constitutional limitations on federal and state powers. Furthermore, simple research would give each policymaker or good students of government clarity of understanding that government and its mandates hail from the “consent of the governed.”

It brings home what the founding fathers had in mind when they wrote the preamble of our country’s Constitution that starts with “We the people.” Notice, it never says “we the lords” of federal agencies who relish writing umpteen number of regulations and insist that they be followed. No sir! Such lordship has caused major dissatisfaction among people throughout the union who declare that such arrangement is so far removed from the founding principles of our country.

We must value highly the system of first principles with unconditional conviction. It’s time to recapture the future of our country and this archipelago with untiring vigilance to guard what rightfully belongs to “We the people.”






■ ■ ■

If the NMI wishes to rebuild the prevailing dysfunctional relationship with the feds, then it needs to convey official communication to appropriate federal officials to seek formal discussion of issues. Posturing in the pages of newspapers satisfies the ego but only renders our barking up the wrong tree. Bring the issue formally to Washington where both sides could engage in constructive discussions to rebuild and establish synergistic working relationship. Must do it sooner than later so the healing process begins. It would grant everyone the opportunity to work together to reclaim the future of our country and these isles. Must return to “We the people.”

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

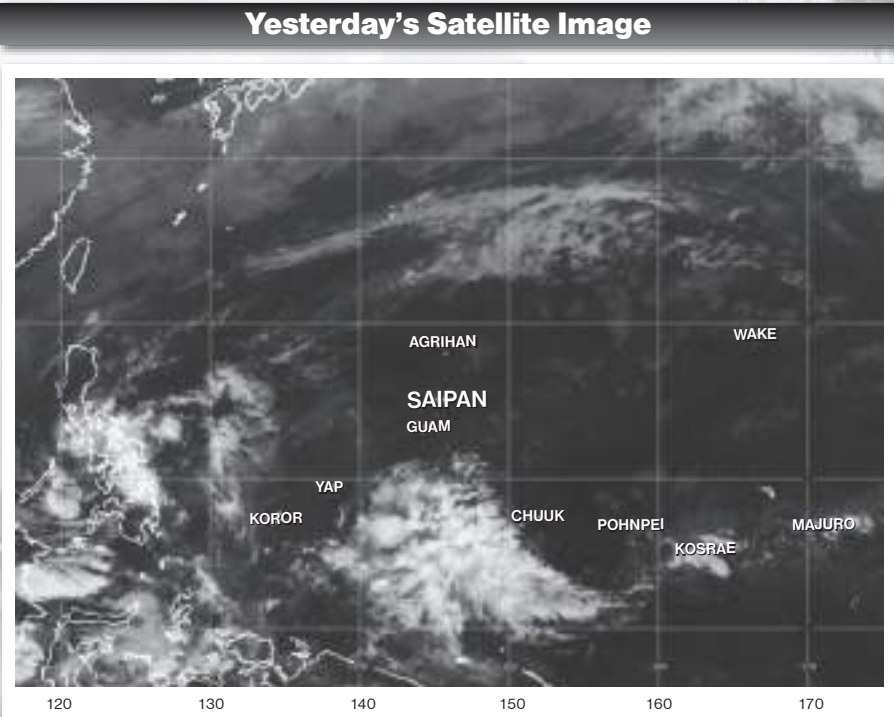
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

Micronesia		
Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼76
Palau	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲89 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Showers	▲72 ▼63
Beijing	Sunny	▲41 ▼19
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲63 ▼53
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲79 ▼70
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲54 ▼42
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲70 ▼48
Manila	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼59
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼66
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼32
Osaka	Showers	▲41 ▼32
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲49 ▼37
Pusan	Sunny	▲37 ▼24
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲56 ▼35
Salem	Rain	▲52 ▼39
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼50
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲30 ▼17
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲44 ▼29
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲55 ▼34

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:16 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
9:50 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
2:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:48 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough runs northeastward from 17N132E to beyond 25N at 145E. Scattered showers are found near this feature between Iwo To island and Minami Tori Shima and north of the Marianas and Yap or north of a line from 17N135E to 25N155E. A surface trough extends northeastward from 2N142E to 11N148E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring between Yap and Chuuk between the equator and 10N from 139E to 150E and in trade-wind convergence south of Chuuk from 150E to 156E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers just south of Pohnpei and Kwajelein over Kosrae and around Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 5N158E to 7N180.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:41 AM	6:21 PM	Today	2:28 AM	2:03 PM
Saturday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM	Saturday	3:23 AM	3:01 PM
Sunday	6:40 AM	6:22 PM	Sunday	4:15 AM	3:58 PM
Monday	6:40 AM	6:22 PM	Monday	5:02 AM	4:53 PM
Tuesday	6:39 AM	6:22 PM	Tuesday	5:46 AM	5:46 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2012					
DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS		
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)		
C05062	2:10am	2:40am 1, 5	C05064	5:15am	5:45am 1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)		
C05064	4:15am	4:50am 1, 5	C05062	3:10am	3:45am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
C05064	4:15am	5:45am 1, 5 via ROP	C05062	2:10am	3:45am 1, 5 via ROP
C05070	4:35am	5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	C05069	2:45am	3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05068	8:25am	9:15am Daily	C05071	7:00am	7:50am Daily
C05074	12:10pm	1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7	C05073	10:05am	10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05076	3:10pm	4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05075	1:40pm	2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7
C05078	6:50pm	7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05077	5:30pm	6:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05078	7:00pm	7:50pm 3, 6	C05077	5:40pm	6:30pm 3, 6
C05072	9:55pm	10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05079	8:35pm	9:25pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05072	10:05pm	10:55pm 3, 6	C05079	8:45pm	9:35pm 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
DL287	6:00am	8:40am Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm Daily
DL285	6:35am	9:15am 1, 3, 5, 7	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1 Daily
DL297	4:25pm	7:15pm Daily	DL286	7:40pm	12:20am+1 2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN		
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am Daily	OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am 1	OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm Daily
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1 Daily via KIX
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am Daily via KIX	OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1 7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm Daily	OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN		
OZ608	3:35am	7:05am 4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1 3, 6
DL581	4:10am	7:30am 1, 5	DL580	10:10pm	2:55am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN		
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am 2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN		
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN		
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am 1 via ICN	DL172/288	8:00am	1:15am+1 Daily via NRT
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	C0190/5077	10:55am	6:30pm 3, 6 via GUM
C05070/191	4:35am	9:45am 3, 6 via GUM	C0190/5079	10:55am	9:35pm 3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:25pm Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1 7 via ICN
C05068/183	8:25am	9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C05068/183	8:25am	9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM	C0192/5071	10:25pm	7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:40pm 1, 4, 7 via GUM	C0184/5071	11:10pm	7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/193	3:10pm	11:00pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau	OZ704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm Daily via ICN
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm Daily via ICN	C0184/5071	11:59pm	7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM
C05072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1 1, 5, 7 via GUM			
C05072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1 3, 6 via GUM			
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN		
OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm 1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm Daily via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm Daily via ICN
C05076/147	3:10pm	10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:00am+1 7 via ICN
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:30pm Daily via ICN	OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:50pm Daily via ICN	C0180/5071	11:15pm	7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana					
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)					

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE							
Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
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 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
 - For announcements:
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.
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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Kilili bill requires 60 percent local hire for federal projects

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday a bill that would require that 60 percent of workers on any federally funded construction project in the Northern Marianas be U.S. workers. The requirement would only apply to larger projects over \$100,000. The bill responds to the unemployment

situation faced by many local workers in the Marianas, who want jobs, but are passed over by employers.

Sablan submitted the following introductory statement for inclusion in the Congressional Record:

“Mr. Speaker: We have to ensure that U.S. workers get jobs. So, today I am introducing legislation that requires that on fed-

erally funded construction projects in my district, the Northern Mariana Islands, at least 60 percent of the workforce has to be U.S. workers.

“It is just common sense: U.S. dollars should employ U.S. workers.

“There is a threshold. This legislation only applies to projects that cost more than \$100,000. We do not want to enact a law that unnecessarily delays spending or over-regulates business.

“But for larger projects funded with federal dollars—and in the Northern Marianas this means road construction, modernizing schools, putting in water lines—we need to make sure that the local, U.S. workers get most of the jobs. We need to make a stand for U.S. workers and for the families they support.

“I know that our national economy is still pulling itself out of the worst recession since the 1930s. Although we have seen almost 4 million jobs created in the last two years, we still have unacceptably high levels of unemployment.

“But, if you can imagine, in the Northern Marianas the situation is worse—and not improving. Even before the national recession began our economy was sinking. Our island gross domestic product has gone down every year since 2005—20 percent in 2009, the last year the Bureau of Economic Analysis has computed.

“We do not have unemployment data for the Northern Marianas, but we do know that our population has shrunk from 69,000 in 2000 to 54,000 in

2010. People have left because jobs have disappeared. I can say from personal observation and from talking with my constituents that there are many people in the Northern Marianas who want work and cannot get a job.

“I know, too, that many of the local U.S. workers in the Marianas who want to work are being passed over for the jobs that do exist.

“We have something like 11,000 foreign workers today in the Northern Marianas. One has to ask: How can we have so many foreign workers when there are U.S. workers unemployed who want to work.

“Something is not right.

“The workers I talk to have skills. They have a good work ethic. They are employable. Yet they are being passed over.

“We have to do more in this Congress for these U.S. workers. At the very least, we can say that when we appropriate federal dollars for construction projects in the Northern Marianas, those funds will put U.S. workers on the payroll.

“We are not even asking that all the workers be U.S. workers, only that most are U.S. workers. We understand that there may be some specialty skills U.S. workers do not have. Maybe there will be numerical shortages that need to be filled.

“But as long as we know that there are U.S. workers, who want jobs, who need to work, then let us make very sure that the federal dollars we provide to the Northern Mariana Islands put those U.S. workers to work.” (PR)

USCIS clarifies biometrics for those in CNMI with pending applications

If you are in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands and have an application pending with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, please ignore any notice from USCIS that says you have a biometrics appointment in Honolulu.

If you received such a notice from USCIS, it is the result of a computer error.

You do not go to Hawaii for biometrics. Your biometrics appointment will be on Saipan, Rota or Tinian, depending upon your work location.

Scheduled biometrics for Saipan residents take place at our office in TSL Plaza. USCIS will be coming to Rota and Tinian to capture biometrics there.

If you receive a notice for a biometrics appointment in Honolulu, send USCIS an email at CNMI.CSC@uscis.dhs.gov.

For more information about immigration in the CNMI you may:

■ Visit www.uscis.gov/cnmi or www.uscis.gov/cw.

■ Call the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283. This toll-free number has automated information and live assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During regular business hours, customers who need more information or assistance can be transferred to a customer-service representative. In the CNMI, live assistance is available Tuesday through Saturday from 6am to 11am local time.

■ Email us at CNMI.CSC@uscis.dhs.gov.

■ Find the status of your case by using the “My Case Status” tool on www.uscis.gov.

■ Make an appointment at www.uscis.gov to visit the USCIS Application Support Center at TSL Plaza in Saipan. Walk-ins will be seen after people with appointments. (USCIS)

SVES Annual Canary Walkathon

The Parent, Teacher, Students Association of San Vicente Elementary School will be hosting the Annual Canary Walkathon on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2012, at the SVES baseball field, from 7am until noon. The public is invited to join to promote a healthier lifestyle for parents, students, and the community.

The Canary Walkathon committee has various activities planned for the families of San Vicente Elementary School and

the community. This event is tailored to provide the school and the community as well, some interactive activities that will benefit not only the child and the individual but also the family as a whole.

PTSA members have been soliciting support for the event and welcome all donations both monetary and in-kind. For more information, call the school at (670) 237-3791/3 or 237-3761. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ando Matsumoto, who is celebrating his special day today, Feb. 17, 2012! May God grant you the strength to blow out all those candles on your cake! Good health and God bless! Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to my niece, Bernadette Joyce “Nene” Montano, who is celebrating her second birthday today, Feb. 17, 2012! We love you Nene! Greetings coming from Tita Jane, Ninong Borge, Kuya Jemo, Kuya Jerome, and K Kuya Janvir and also from the Montano family.

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Ada Gym gets first aid kits

Athletes, sports fans, and visitors who go to the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in Susupe can feel safer knowing that the sporting complex is better equipped with lifesaving tools in the event of an emergency.

The Division of Sports and Recreation received two first aid kits from the American Red Cross-Northern Mariana Islands Chapter on Wednesday, Feb. 15,

Joseph Attao, Division of Sports and Recreation director, left, receives two first aid kits from Kennedy Benjamin, American Red Cross Health and Safety manager, at the Ada Gym in Susupe on Wednesday, Feb. 15. The kits will be made available to the different leagues that use the gym.

ARC

making the CNMI community safer and better prepared in the event of an emergency.

Sports and Recreation director Joseph Attao accepted the first aid kits on behalf of his agency.

"We are grateful for the contribution from the Red Cross," Attao said. "The first aid kits will help the players and coaches tend to injuries that may arise during a game."

Red Cross' Health and Safety manager Kennedy Benjamin was there to hand the kits over.

"Through the support and generosity of the NMI community, the Red Cross is able to do projects such as this," Benjamin said. "I feel that everyone who comes to the Ada Gym will benefit from having the first aid kits around because minor wounds will be able to be treated on the spot."

With the CNMI baseball league starting this weekend, as well as a track and field session for the Chuukese Association, the first aid kits could not have come at a better time, Attao said.

"Players are vulnerable to cuts and bruises out on the baseball field, and runners can tend to blisters and other foot injuries," Attao said.

In addition to the two first aid kits, ARC has also provided the gym with an automated external defibrillator and has trained the gym staff in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to use an AED.

Just like the AED, the first aid kits will be made available when any of the gym facilities are in use, Attao said.

"The Red Cross is committed to making the NMI community a safer place," Benjamin said. "We cannot stop accidents or injuries from occurring," he added. "But in the event that it does happen, we feel better knowing that the community is prepared to take on the situation." (ARC)

CULTURAL CENTER CALENDAR

The *Inetnon Amot yan Kuturan Natibu/Mwiischil Safey me Koor Aramasal Faliw* is offering free lessons to Chamorros and Carolinians on making *titiyas, atuli, and iskoba* at the Saipan Chamorro-Carolinian Village Cultural Centers Headquarters (1213 Capitol Hill Road, across from the Workforce Investment Agency and next to the CNMI Board of Parole Office) this Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012. The lessons will start at 9:30am to about 12pm.

These activities are offered by the Association of Native Medicine and Culture, in partnership with the Indigenous Affairs Office and funded in part by the Administration for Native Americans. For more information, call 322-0278 Saipan. (PR)

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Feel the difference

Public library donates equipment, materials to Kagman center



By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Kagman Community Center recently received a donation of various learning materials and equipment that would benefit the residents of the island's biggest village.

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Gonzales and Library Council member Herminia Fusco, along with Bookmobile staffers Bedebii Woodruff and Xerxes Mangarero, presented 35 boxes of books, five boxes of VHS tapes, bookshelves, a used desktop computer, and television to Kagman

Komunitat Association president Daniel Huh.

Gonzales said the latest donation is part of their outreach efforts to the island's remote areas or underserved populations. Three or four laptops will also be set up in the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Bookmobile service to allow its patrons to access the Internet.

Last year, the state library donated library materials to the Garapan Youth Center and the Rota Public Library, which is scheduled to open at the end of the month. Another donation is scheduled for the Koblerville Youth Center next

week, Gonzales added.

"We're grateful to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library for always helping us," Huh told *Saipan Tribune*.

Huh said the Kagman Community Center, which was built through federal funds, is only open on Tuesdays to Thursday from 3pm to 5:30pm. Lack of funding, he said, prevents the community from fully utilizing the center, which is currently run by volunteers.

"If the central government does not provide us with a budget, we can't open the center to the public for additional hours and days. We need help from

the government as well as sponsors and donors," said Huh.

Precinct 5's Rep. Ramon

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Joeten-Kiyu Public Library management and staff led by executive director John Gonzales and Library Council member Herminia Fusco join Reps. Ramon Basa and Fredrick Deleon Guerrero, Kagman Komunitat Association president Daniel Huh and residents after donating various library materials and equipment at the Kagman Community Center on Tuesday.

Basa (Cov-Saipan), who was at the presentation ceremony with Rep. Fredrick Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), also expressed his gratitude to the state library for its donation.

"All these items can get our Kagman Community Center going," said Basa. "It's not so much but it speaks volumes."

Basa promised to help take the center "to the next level" by

working on obtaining funds for needed repairs at the facility.

A former teacher, Deleon Guerrero separately said that the donation is a "great thing" that would help the students who use the center. "They should take care of it because these things are not easy to come by," he added.

Library Council's Fusco, for her part, said the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has come a long way in providing services throughout the Commonwealth. She commended Gonzales, whom she described as conscientious and motivated in seeking federal funding to improve library services and better serve its clients.

"We have a lot more patrons now who are utilizing the library. It's at a point where we are able to provide what's needed in the community," said Fusco.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-12-006, REV. #1

PIPELINE PROJECT MANAGEMENT, DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE 8-INCH DIESEL FUEL PIPELINE FOR POWER PLANT 1 & 2

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is resoliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced firms to provide Project Management to include Design and Construction Management services for CUC's 8-Inch Diesel Fuel Pipeline Replacement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, material and logistics associated with the Project Management Services including Design and Onsite Construction Management for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) from award to completion of the 8" diesel pipeline project. Tasks shall include but not be limited to weekly, monthly inspection reports, design completion, construction and quality assurance oversight, site visits and coordination with the CUC, construction contractor and regulatory agencies (including US EPA and/or US DOT). It is preferred that the contractor have the in-house capability and qualifications to perform all the functions required (i.e. - Project management to include Design and Construction Management services) and not subcontract any part to third party vendors.

The project involves replacement of an existing 8-inch aboveground petroleum pipeline (approx. 1 mile long) with an 8-inch underground pipeline from the Saipan seaport at the Mobil Oil Bulk Plant to CUC Power Plants 1 and 2. The underground pipe installation portion of the project includes archeological monitoring, excavation/trenching, shoring, placement of bedding, welding and testing of pipe segments, pressure relief valves, high and low point drains, valve pits, pipe jacket, bridge crossing, pipe pigging, cathodic protection, based on 49 CFR part 195 and other applicable codes. Design engineers are required to obtain the relevant licenses in CNMI, as per local professional licensing rules and regulations, details of which are available on the webpage, <http://cuccnmi.net/>.

This project is being performed under a stipulated order (SO) being overseen by the U.S. EPA and Federal Court. The project is funded primarily by a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), Office of Insular Affairs.

The Revised Scope-of-Work (SOW) will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) (CHST-Chamorro Standard Time), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays. All other documentation can be downloaded from the website, <http://cuccnmi.net/>.

The response to this RFP must be received with the title **"PIPELINE PROJECT MANAGEMENT, DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE 8-INCH DIESEL FUEL PIPELINE"** and **shall only be sent** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via e-mail to manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via e-mail to mika.muna@cucgov.org no later than **Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 10:00 AM (CHST)** local time and the equivalent time of **Tuesday February 28, 2012, 4:00 PM Pacific Standard Time**. Late submissions and other means of submission will not be considered. A return receipt for the email must be requested and received by the proposer to ensure that the email transmission has been received by the deadline, by CUC.

All inquiries and clarifications must be submitted in writing no later than **Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 10:00 AM CHST**, and the equivalent time of Tuesday, February 21, 4:00 PM Pacific Standard Time to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org; and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika.muna@cucgov.org. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation. All interested parties including those who have participated in the recently closed RFP are requested to also register through the website - <http://cuccnmi.net/> - or e-mailing their request to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via e-mail mika.muna@cucgov.org, no later than **Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 10:00 AM (CHST)** local time or the equivalent time of **Tuesday, February 21, 4:00 PM Pacific Standard Time**. CUC requires all the proposers to send their questions in writing so that the responses can also be made available to all the interested vendors, well in time.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged by the Source Selection Committee (SSC). CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

CNMI Division of Energy projects continue to move

The CNMI Division of Energy continues to push forward with the various energy efficiency and renewable energy projects funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. With grant closure deadlines quickly approaching, many of the projects that are funded through the CNMI Division of Energy are making their way toward completion.

To date, the CNMI Division of Energy, through State Energy Plan grant funding, has been able to successfully complete half of the contracted projects funded through ARRA monies, which include the replacement of street lights to LED's, air-conditioning retrofits at the Saipan and Tinian courthouses and the CNMI Legislature building, Energy Star tinting at the new wing of the Commonwealth Health Center, as well as the concluding the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s turbo-charger project. The completed projects have helped to increase the CNMI's energy efficiency while decreasing the government's cost of operations.

With the continued emphasis on energy efficiency, the CNMI Division of Energy has continued to move on projects that benefit the public. The Public

School System and the Northern Marianas College will be undergoing some lighting retrofits, while several government buildings across all three islands will be undergoing air-conditioner retrofits to move to more energy-efficient units. CUC will expand on the installation of the streetlight LED replacements, while contractor Spectrum Electric is currently completing the installation of parking lights at several sites throughout the CNMI.

CUC turbochargers

The project began in September of 2010 and faced many challenges, the most substantial being the ARRA "Buy America" Provision. Once this obstacle was overcome, steady progress continued to be made on the project. The first pair of units arrived at Power Plant 1 on Feb. 9, 2011, and were installed on Engine 8. The last pair turbo-charger was installed and commissioned on Dec. 1, 2011, and the project is currently being closed out. The new turbochargers have improved engine response, and have provided for lower spare part costs, while providing easier maintenance and time between overhauls.

Project manager Chris Fryling of N15 Architects said, "The turbocharger installations went smoothly. We expect all four turbocharger sets online and running above rated efficiency. We are on track to start saving the Commonwealth at least 2 percent of their total fuel costs, which will add up to millions of dollars over the next few years."

Parking lot lighting retrofit

This project aims to change the lights at various parking lots into LED lights. Parking lots that will be getting these new LED lights include that of the Commonwealth Health Center, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the Multi-Purpose Center, the Courthouse Complex, the Saipan International Airport, the Administration Office, and the Susupe Sports Complex.

The installation of these new LED lights will help save energy at these sites, help to keep operating costs down. The new

lights will reduce glare, increasing visibility in the parking lots and adding to driver safety. These new lights also have a longer lifespan and require less labor to maintain.

The project is currently ongoing with nine of the approximately 31 locations completed on Saipan. Work is slated to begin on the other two islands of Tinian and Rota within the next month.

PSS Green Energy project

This project has allowed for Saipan Southern High School and 10 other schools throughout the CNMI to receive solar panels and wind turbines. Two of the wind turbines were recently installed at Garapan Elementary School over the weekend, while contractor Pacific Green Integrated Technologies Inc. continues the solar panel installation at the same site.

When completed, Saipan Southern High School is expected to harness as much as 165 kW, which is enough solar and wind power to run the entire school. The project will be connected to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power grid by a net-meter, so any excess power can be used by Saipan residents.

The intent of this project is to educate students on the benefits of renewable energy through the collection of actual energy data being produced at each site. It will also cut power usage at each of the sites leading to power savings for the Public School System.

Currently all the schools except one have solar panels, with wind turbines to be installed in the second week of February on Saipan and the first week of March on Tinian.

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, who has been charged with leading the CNMI's renewable energy efforts, lauds the efforts made by all involved. "With recent developments at [PSS] in response to the cost of utilities, the pending completion of the PSS Green Energy Project is well timed. I hope that the production of alternative energy at the school sites will serve as a means for PSS to resume in a fashion as not to be overburdened by the cost of utilities." (Office of the Governor)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Health Care Professions Licensing Board meeting

The Health Care Professions Licensing Board hereby notifies the general public that it will be holding its board meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2012, at 3pm. The meeting will be held at conference room No. 3 at the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis Center, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan. (PR)

Rota Little League opening rites on Sunday

The Rota Little League Association will have its opening ceremony on Sunday, Feb. 19, 2012, at 9am, immediately followed by the first game. On Monday the upper division will start off their first game as well. District Administrator James Ada will be arriving from Saipan to witness this memorable event. (PR)

UPDATE: Slots for Saipan are filled. Available seats are for Rota and Tinian only.

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Onion 69¢ LB.	Potato 79¢ LB.	Ox & Palm Corned Beef \$2⁹⁹ 11.5 OZ.	Spam All Kinds \$2³⁹ EA	Black Label Luncheon \$1⁷⁹ EA.	Delmonte Whole Corn 99¢ 15 OZ.	Campbells Chicken Noodle 89¢ 10 OZ.	Libby's Vienna Sausage 69¢ 5 OZ.	Master/A1 Tuna \$1³⁹ 7 OZ.	Kool-Aid Jammers \$2⁹⁹ BOX		
Cabbage 89¢ LB.	Korean Pear \$2⁹⁹ LB.	Beach Cliff Sardines 99¢	Ace of Diamond Tuna \$1³⁹ 7 OZ.	Century Tuna 89¢ 6.5 OZ.	Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash \$1⁹⁹ 15 OZ.	Hormel Chili with Beans \$1⁶⁹ 15 OZ.	Hormel Chili No Beans \$1⁷⁹	Kruataia Coconut Milk 99¢ 13.5 OZ.	Sunkist \$6⁹⁹ CASE		
Broccoli \$1⁴⁹ LB.	Celo Apple \$3⁴⁹ /BAG	Dinty Moore Beef Stew \$1⁶⁹ 15 OZ.	Dinty Moore Meatball Stew \$1⁶⁹ 15 OZ.	Royal Spaghetti Noodle \$2⁴⁹ 1 kg.	Tabasco \$6⁷⁹ 12 oz.	Kimchi Base \$6³⁹ 450 gm	Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds) \$1⁵⁹ 26.5oz.	Del Monte Whole Corn \$5⁴⁹ 106 oz.	Pepsi Can \$14⁴⁹ CASE		
Orange 99¢ LB.	Honeydew/Cantaloupe 99¢ LB.	General Mills Big Pack Cereal \$7⁹⁹	Kellogg's Frosted Flakes \$3⁷⁹ 12 OZ.	Kellogg's Corn Pops \$3⁹⁹ 11.8 OZ.	Kellogg's Apple Jacks \$3⁹⁹ 11.8 OZ.	White Sugar 2kg \$2⁷⁹ 2 KG.	Argo Corn Starch 99¢ 1 LB.	Gold Medal Flour \$3⁴⁹ 5 LBS.	Coca Cola & Sprite Can \$13⁹⁹ CASE		
Garlic \$1²⁵ 5 PCS.	U.S. X-Large Eggs \$2²⁹ 1 DOZ.	Foremost Milk \$20⁴⁹ CASE	Tang Orange \$8⁹⁹ 22 QTS.	Kool-Aid \$8⁹⁹ 34 QTS.	Maxwell Coffee Mix \$7⁹⁹ 100CT.	Ox & Palm Cooked Ham \$1⁶⁹ 120Z. \$3⁴⁹ 160Z.	Best Food Mayonnaise \$15⁴⁹ 1 GAL.	GB Mayonnaise \$9⁶⁹ 1 GAL.	Vlasic Sliced Dill Pickle \$5⁹⁹ 1 GAL.	JinJro Soju \$28⁹⁹ CASE	
		Quaker Oats (Oatmeal) \$4⁴⁹ 42oz.	Whole Chicken Can \$5⁹⁹ 50 OZ.	Kikkoman Soy Sauce \$3⁹⁹	Real Lemon Juice \$3³⁹ 32 OZ.	Dragon Vegetable Oil \$9⁴⁹ 1 GAL.	DelMonte Ketchup \$4⁶⁹ 2 64 OZ.	HappyTime Assorted Cookies \$6⁴⁹	Golden State Vinegar \$3⁹⁹ 2.1 GAL.	Hite Can \$15⁹⁹ CASE	

FROZEN	Bar S Jumbo Franks \$1¹⁹	Millers Sausage \$16⁹⁹	Bar S Ham \$18⁹⁹ 10LBS.	Bar S Bacon \$3²⁹	Ground Beef \$10⁴⁹ 5LBS.	Chamorro Sausage \$4⁴⁹ 10LBS.	Ground Pork \$22⁴⁹ 10LBS.	Vega Shrimps \$5⁷⁹ /LB.	Tilapia \$1⁰⁹ /LB.	Milk Fish \$1⁴⁹ /LB.	Green Shell Mussels \$5⁹⁹ 2LBS.
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NON-FOOD	Clorox Regular \$3⁴⁹ 92 OZ.	Purex \$4⁴⁹ 50 OZ.	Gain Liquid \$6⁴⁹ 50 OZ.	Gain Powder 120 loads \$16⁹⁹ 50 OZ.	Joy Ultra \$1⁴⁹ 12.5 OZ. \$6⁹⁹ 90 OZ.	Huggies Big \$18⁹⁹ BOX	Luvs Big \$17⁴⁹ BOX	Drypers Convenient \$5⁷⁵
	Dawn Dishwashing Soap \$8⁹⁹ 90 OZ.	Suave Shampoo & Conditioner 2 for \$3⁰⁰	Safe Guard Bar-Soap 79¢ 135 g.	Head & Shoulders \$5⁷⁵ EA. 14 OZ.	Bounty Paper Towel \$19⁹⁹ 15 Rolls	Charmin Ultra Strong Tissue \$6⁹⁹ 24 Rolls	Foam Plates \$3²⁹ 50 CT. \$7⁹⁹ 125 CT	Diamond Aluminum Foil \$6⁹⁹ 200SQ.FT.

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Business

Counterfeit drugs becoming big business worldwide

WASHINGTON (AP)—The discovery that a fake version of the widely used cancer medicine Avastin is circulating in the United States is raising new fears that the multibillion-dollar drug-counterfeiting trade is increasingly making inroads in the U.S.

The criminal practice has largely been relegated to poor countries with lax regulations. But with more medicines and drug ingredients for sale in the U.S. being manufactured overseas, American authorities are afraid more counterfeits will find their way into this country, putting patients' lives at risk.

The Avastin discovery fol-

lows other recent instances in the U.S. of counterfeiting, involving such drugs as Viagra, the cholesterol medicine Lipitor and the weight-loss pill Alli.

"We do know there are counterfeits continuing to try and make their way onto the U.S. supply chain," said Connie Jung, an associate director in the Food and Drug Administration's office of drug security.

The FDA announced Tuesday it is investigating fake vials of Avastin that were sold to at least 19 doctors and clinics, including 16 sites in California, two in Texas and one in Chicago. Tests showed the vials did not contain the active ingredient in Avastin, which is given intravenously in hospitals, clinics and doctors' offices to treat several types of cancer.

The contents of the vials are still being analyzed, and the FDA said it has not received any reports of patients who were harmed.

FDA officials said the counterfeit Avastin was imported from Britain and distributed by Volunteer Distribution, a wholesaler based in Gainesboro, Tenn. British regulators notified the FDA about the products in December, but the agency didn't confirm they were fake until last week.

The FDA gave assurances Wednesday that the U.S. remains one of the most secure pharmaceutical markets in the world. But the news sent cancer doctors scrambling to check their records.

Mary Mathias, a nurse who orders drugs for one doctor on the FDA list—Dr. Phillip L. Chatham in Granada Hills, Calif.—said they had stopped using the company in question at least a year ago.

Because Avastin treatments are spaced one to two weeks apart, it is not likely that some-

one would get more than one infusion from the same vial. And because these are people facing a life-threatening disease, it is hard to say whether missing one treatment with the real drug would compromise their care.

Gauging harm from a counterfeit cancer treatment is nearly impossible, said Dr. Robert C. Young, former president of the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia and now a consultant to cancer centers.

A colon cancer patient, for example, might receive 18 to 20 Avastin infusions over six months. Missing one dose seems unlikely to have a dramatic effect on survival odds, but it's not provable either way because cancer's course and a patient's response to treatment are not predictable, he said.

Counterfeits have traditionally been more of a concern in developing regions like Asia and Latin America, where as many as 30 percent of drugs sold are fake, according to the World Health Organization. The group estimates just 1 percent of drugs dispensed in the U.S. and other developed nations are fake.

Manufacturers providing outsize boost to economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—American factories are humming—and driving the economy forward. Manufacturers have been hiring more consistently than other employers, for jobs with better-than-average pay. They just had their best month of growth in five years. And more factory output has raised demand in some other industries, such as shipping, leading to further hiring.

"The manufacturing sector is on a tear," said Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics.

It's an optimistic theme that serves President Barack Obama's political needs. On Wednesday, Obama traveled to Milwaukee to salute a company that brought jobs back to the United States. The president has promoted the nation's manufacturing base as an engine of growth and as evidence of a recovering economy.

No one thinks manufacturing will return to its 1950s peak. After all, the factory sector now makes up barely one-tenth of the economy. But since the recession ended more than 2 1/2 years ago, factories have been contributing disproportionately to the recovery in hiring and the overall economy.

A big reason, economists say, is that individuals and businesses are making major purchases they delayed during the Great Recession and its aftermath. Consumers are buying more cars and appliances. Companies are investing in industrial machinery and computers.

The release of that pent-up demand gives manufacturing a kick that isn't visible in some other corners of the economy. Manufacturing was hit particularly hard by the recession. Consumers postponed purchases of cars, refrigerators and flat-screen TVs, even as they continued to visit doctors, get haircuts and pay utility bills.

"Manufacturing has punched above its weight, but that's because it was punched in the stomach in the recession," Michael Montgomery, a senior economist at IHS Global Insight, said.

Factory output got off to a robust start this year, and it ended last year with the fastest growth in five years, the Federal Reserve said Wednesday.


BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil hovers below \$102 as Iran tensions bubble

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil hovered below \$102 a barrel Thursday in Asia amid conflicting reports about whether Iran is cutting crude exports to Europe. Benchmark crude was down 16 cents at \$101.64 per barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose \$1.06 to settle at \$101.80 per barrel in New York on Wednesday. Brent crude was steady at \$118.93 per barrel in London.

Tainted sprouts again linked to Jimmy John's

WASHINGTON (AP)—Raw sprouts from the sandwich chain Jimmy John's have been linked to an outbreak of foodborne illness—again. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday that 12 cases of E. coli poisoning in five states are linked to raw clover sprouts eaten at Jimmy John's restaurants. The outbreak comes a year after raw alfalfa sprouts from one of the chain's suppliers were linked to 140 salmonella illnesses. Sprouts from the chain's suppliers were also linked to a 2009 salmonella outbreak in several Midwestern states and were suspected in an E. coli outbreak in Boulder, Colo. in 2008. Illinois-based Jimmy John's declined to comment on the outbreak. After the salmonella outbreak a year ago, the company said it would switch from using alfalfa sprouts to using clover sprouts because they are easier to clean.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

Office of the Secretary
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, M.P. 96950
Tel. 664-2576 • Fax. 664-2570

CHILD CARE PROGRAM
OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians:

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Child Care Program will be doing pre-eligibility assessments for new applicants. The program will open to a maximum of 200 children or slots only. **For this opening, parents going to school, training, or working will be accommodated.** Once all slots have been taken, pre-eligibility assessments will cease and applications will no longer be provided.

Pre-eligibility assessments will be done at the following locations, date, and time.

Location	Date	Time
Multipurpose Hall, Saipan	Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012	5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.
Tinian	Wednesday, March. 7, 2012	10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.
Rota	Thursday, March. 5, 2012 and Tuesday, March 6, 2012	1:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.

Parents and/or legal guardians who are interested in applying for the program must go through the pre-eligibility process and will need to bring the following:

- Three (3) latest checkstubs showing the applicant's name, hours worked (at least 60 hours bi-weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earnings (both parents)
- Most recent 1040 tax – for the year 2010 (both parents)
- School documents (class schedule, must be full time 12 credit)
- Training schedule (must have at least 60 training hours bi-weekly)

Interested applicants must bring the above documents to be entertained for pre-eligibility.

The Child Care Program Office will accept completed applications beginning March 20, 2012 between 1:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. and the last day to submit applications will be March 29, 2012 at 4:00p.m. Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office Building No. 1347 Ascension Court Capitol Hill. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

For questions regarding the Child Care Program please call at 664-2575/2546/2587.

Requirements:
Applicant of Household

1. Check stubs for the most recent three pay periods for each parent or guardian
2. A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian (Passport, CNMI driver's license, Mayor's ID Card or entry permit)
3. A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax for the year 2010 (each parent or guardian)
4. Residency: The applicant or guardian must be living in the CNMI
Provide one of the following documents
 - a. House Rental/ Mortgage
 - b. Utility Receipt
 - c. Telephone Receipt
 - d. Entry Permit
5. Employment verification (CCDF Form)
6. Child support statement/stub
7. Training/Education Verification and class schedules
8. If single parent/guardian in a household provide notarized affidavit

Child/Children Household member:

1. A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA))
2. A copy of US Passport
3. A copy of Social Security Card

Approved for distribution: /s/ Melvin L.O. Faisao
DCCA Secretary

Date: February 09, 2012

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services,
Administration for Children and Families

Are you 18 years or older?

Have you been providing
unpaid services to family members?

Been dependent
on the income of another
family member but no
longer supported by that
income and are you
unemployed or underemployed
and experiencing difficulty
obtaining or upgrading
employment?

If you answer "Yes" to all of these
questions, contact WIA at
(670) 664-1704/5, 7 & 8 (Saipan),
(670) 433-1700 (Tinian),
or (670) 532-1701 (Rota).

You may be able to
qualify for services as a
Displaced Homemaker
under WIA's Dislocated
Worker Funding Program.
All other program eligibility
requirements applies.

Dislocated Worker Funding Program

- U.S. Citizen or Registered Alien
- Meet Selective Service Requirements
- Have received the required Eligibility for services
- Must be 18 years or older

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of

termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;

2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710

Tinian: (670) 433-1701 • **Rota:** (670) 532-1701

Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	
BANK OF GUAM,	Civil Action
Plaintiff,	No. 11-0088 CV
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION
MARIAN DLG. TUDELA,	
Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 10th day of August, 2011, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendant, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder on the **5th day of April, 2012 at 10am**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

PARCEL I
Tract 21821-14, (part of Tract 21821-R2, part of original Tract 21821,AH 543), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2071/86 consisting of 736 squaremeters more or less, located in Sadog Tase, Saipan, the original of which recorded on March 26, 1986 as Document No. 86-0557 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

PARCEL II
Tract 21821-15, (part of Tract 21821-R2, which was part of original Tract 21821, AH 543), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2071/86 consisting of 929 square meters more or less, the original of which was recorded on March 26, 1986 as document No. 86-0557 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan and recorded on August 5, 1998 as Document 98-2443 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

PARCEL III
Tract 21821-17, (part of Tract 21821-R3, part of original Tract 21821, AH 543), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2063/06, the original of which was recorded on July 21, 2006 as Document No. 06-1780 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

PARCEL IV
Tract 21821-2, (part of Tract 21821, AH 543), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 129/80, the original of which was recorded on July 16, 1980 as Document No. 10389 at the Office of Land Registry, Saipan.

- Terms and Conditions of Sale.**
- Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the Auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
 - Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@opticom.com.
 - Deposit and Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to Bank of Guam.
 - Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
 - Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED This 23rd day of January, 2012.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, F-0197
Auctioneer

Nation

Santorum's tax returns show rise in wealth

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum released four years of federal income tax returns on Wednesday night, showing a sharp rise in his personal wealth spurred by his growing work as Washington-based corporate consultant and media commentator.

Santorum's returns show that his federal income taxes rose from 2007, when he paid

\$167,000, to \$310,000 in 2009, then dropped to \$263,000 in 2010. During that same period, his annual income surged from nearly \$660,000 in 2007 to \$1.1 million in 2009 before slipping to \$923,000 in 2010.

Santorum, 53, has sold himself in the Republican primaries as both a Washington outsider and a social conservative, stressing his family's coal-mining background and

his appeal to religious and working-class voters. His personal finances tell a different story, detailing the trajectory of a politician who grew more prosperous in the Senate and became a millionaire afterwards, at times capitalizing on his Beltway connections.

His 2010 tax returns show he made more than \$550,000 in media and consulting fees—paid to him through a corpora-

tion he set up, Excelsior LLC. The previous year, Santorum made more than \$820,000 in fees, also paid through the same firm.

Santorum's wealth doesn't come close to the multimillion-dollar fortune amassed by Mitt Romney's high-finance prowess or Newt Gingrich's smaller but still-lucrative blend of foundation and consulting work. But his newfound af-

fluence reflects his close ties to Washington's business and lobbying circles during his 12 years in the Senate and his smooth transition into their world after he left office.

Both Romney and Gingrich recently disclosed income tax returns.

Last year, the former Pennsylvania senator disclosed investment and real estate assets totaling as much as \$2.5 million.

Interracial marriage in the US hits a new high: 1 in 12

WASHINGTON (AP)—Interracial marriages in the U.S. have climbed to 4.8 million—a record 1 in 12—as a steady flow of new Asian and Hispanic immigrants expands the pool of prospective spouses. Blacks are now substantially more likely than before to marry whites.

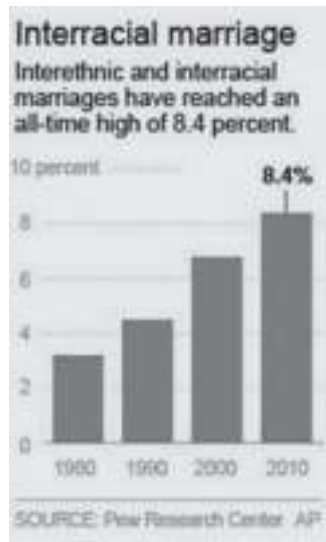
A Pew Research Center study, released Thursday, details a diver-

sifying America where interracial unions and the mixed-race children they produce are challenging typical notions of race.

“The rise in interracial marriage indicates that race relations have improved over the past quarter century,” said Daniel Lichter, a sociology professor at Cornell University. “Mixed-race children have blurred America's color line.

They often interact with others on either side of the racial divide and frequently serve as brokers between friends and family members of different racial backgrounds,” he said. “But America still has a long way to go.”

The figures come from previous censuses as well as the 2008-2010 American Community Survey, which surveys



House-Senate deal reached on payroll tax cut measure

WASHINGTON (AP)—Calling quits to a bruising election-year fight, negotiators on Capitol Hill sealed an agreement late Wednesday on legislation to renew a payroll tax cut for 160 million workers and jobless benefits for millions more.

Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., announced the agreement, capping a long day of wrangling

over final details of the measure, which is a top priority of President Barack Obama. The announcement paved the way for votes in both House and Senate this week.

The \$150 billion measure represents a tactical retreat for Republicans, who were generally unenthusiastic about the legislation but eager to move beyond the issue. With the campaign season starting, they don't want Obama and Democrats in Congress to be able to claim that the GOP was standing in the way of a middle-class tax cut.

It represented a rare burst of bipartisanship in a bitterly divided Congress.

The legislation would continue a 2 percentage-point cut in the Social Security payroll tax, renew jobless benefits averaging about \$300 a week for people languishing for long periods on unemployment rolls and protect doctors from a huge cut in their Medicare reimbursements.

The measure carries a price tag of roughly \$150 billion over the coming year, partly financed by new auctions of telecommunications spectrum to wireless companies and by requiring newly-hired federal workers to contribute more toward their pensions. The pension provision was watered down from a version sought by House Republicans, and tentatively agreed to by key Democrats, that would have required current federal workers to contribute more to their defined benefit pensions.

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Personal Grooming Center plus Women's Clothing with the Modern look.

Sablan Building Chalan Kanoa
Home of **Pena House Boutique** & the **Bank of Saipan**

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Commercial Space Rent at our San Jose & Chalan Piao Buildings. 2nd Floor units Available at San Jose for **50 Cents per Square Foot.** At Our Chalan Piao Building, we have rental space available on the **first floor** starting at **75 cents per square foot** ranging for units ranging from 700 sq ft to 1400 sq ft. Large 4500 square foot space on the second floor that would be ideal for a GYM or Dance Studio at 50 cents per square foot.

2nd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Kanoa Annex Location - 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 600 sq ft, Newly Refurbished (New Tiles, Paint, Great Floor Plan), Semi Furnished with New Refrigerator & Tabletop 2 Burner Gas Range (Save on Power). Wall Fans Installed in each Room. Must see to Appreciate. \$365 per Month plus Utilities

3rd Floor Apartment for Rent at our Chalan Piao Location - 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Bath, Semi-Furnished with Refrigerator & Stove, 1470 sq ft, Save on Power - Great Breeze thru the Apartment. No Need Air Conditioning. \$550 per month plus Utilities

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Contact Tony Muna (Cell No. 888-9290 Email Address: **plebechamp80@gmail.com**) or Ben Sablan (Cell No. 898-9285 Email Address: **bm.sablan@yahoo.com**) or Call 234-2585.

Asia

Thailand: Iranians planned to attack Israelis

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's police chief said the Iranians who were arrested after accidentally setting off explosives at their rented home in Bangkok were plotting to attack Israeli diplomats, bolstering claims by Israel that the group was part of an Iranian-backed network of terror.

"I can tell you that the target was specific and aimed at Israeli diplomatic staff," police chief Gen. Prewpan Dhamapong told a Thai television station late Wednesday.

He also confirmed that the type of explosive—a home-made "sticky" bomb—found at the blast site Tuesday matched the devices planted on Israeli

diplomatic cars in India and Georgia a day earlier.

"The type of improvised explosives they used were the same. The type that was attached to vehicles," he said, confirming that an investigation into a magnetic strip found in Bangkok was the same type used in New Delhi.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denounced the violence, while Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast called the allegations baseless and said Israel was trying to damage his country's relations with Thailand and fuel conspiracy theories.

Thailand's government says

it is still trying to piece together what happened when a group of three Iranian men accidentally detonated explosives at a home they had rented in Bangkok's busy Sukhumvit Road area a day earlier. Bomb disposal teams combed the Iranians' house again Wednesday looking for more evidence, while security forces were searching for an Iranian woman they said had originally rented it.

Two of the men were detained in Bangkok on Tuesday after fleeing the destroyed house, while a third was arrested Wednesday in neighboring Malaysia after boarding a flight from Bangkok to Kuala Lumpur overnight.

Japan's nuclear safety standards called flawed

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's nuclear safety chief said Wednesday the country's regulations are flawed, outdated and below global standards, and he apologized for their failure when a tsunami crippled one plant last year.

Haruki Madarame admitted Japanese safety requirements such as for tsunami and power losses were too loose and many officials have looked the other way and tried to avoid changes.

"I must admit that the nuclear safety guidelines that we have issued until now have various flaws," he said. "We've even

said that we don't need to consider risks for massive tsunamis and lengthy power outages."

Madarame, who heads the Nuclear Safety Commission, was speaking at a parliament-sponsored inquiry investigating the meltdowns at the Fukushima Dai-ichi last year.

The March 11 earthquake and tsunami knocked out power and cooling systems at the plant, sending its three reactors into meltdowns and causing massive radiation leaks. More than 100,000 people around the plant relocated due to fears of radiation

impact on their health.

Madarame said officials have never taken seriously the impact of power outages, assuming that the likelihood of hours-long blackouts in high-tech Japan would be low. He said they thought keeping backup generators would be enough, and never thought of the risk of placing them in the basement—the area most prone to seawater damage from tsunami. The destruction of the generators at Fukushima Dai-ichi left no method available to cool the reactor cores, which eventually melted down.

World

Honduras prison blaze kills at least 358

COMAYAGUA, Honduras (AP)—Honduran officials confirmed Wednesday that 358 people died when a fire tore through an overcrowded prison, making it the world's deadliest prison fire in a century.

With 856 prisoners packed into barracks, the farm prison in the Comayagua province north of the capital was at double capacity, said Supreme Court Justice Richard Ordonez, who is leading the investigation.

Ordonez told The Associated Press the fire started in a barracks where 105 prisoners were bunked, and only four of them survived. Some 115 bodies have been sent to the morgue in the capital of Tegucigalpa.

The fire started by an inmate tore through the prison, burning and suffocating screaming men



AP
Forensic workers load into a truck bodies of inmates killed during a fire inside the prison in Comayagua, Honduras, Wednesday Feb. 15, 2012.

in their crowded barracks as rescuers desperately searched for keys to unlock the doors.

The local governor, who was once a prison employee,

told reporters that an inmate called her moments before the blaze broke out and screamed: "I will set this place on fire and we are all going to die!"

Defiant Iran claims major steps in nuclear fuel

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—In defiant swipes at its foes, Iran said Wednesday it is dramatically closer to mastering the production of nuclear fuel even as the U.S. weighs tougher pressures and Tehran's suspected shadow war with Israel brings probes far beyond the Middle East.

Iran further struck back at the West by indicating it was on the verge of imposing a

midwinter fuel squeeze to Europe in retaliation for a looming boycott of Iranian oil, but denied reports earlier in the day that six nations had already been cut off.

The uncompromising messages from Iran, however, came with a counterpoint. The official IRNA news agency said Iran's top nuclear negotiator, Saeed Jalili, told European

Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton that Iran is ready to return to talks with the U.S. and other world powers.

The dual strategy—taking nuclear steps while proposing more talks—has become a hallmark of Iran's dealings for years and some critics have dismissed it as a time-buying tactic. The advances claimed Wednesday could likely feed these views.

TENTH YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Ten years ago, our dearly beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother

*Consolacion
Castro Camacho,*

was called by her creator.

We, the family of the late Consolacion Castro Camacho would like to invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the anniversary of our beloved passing unto eternal life.



Daily mass will be offered at the San Roque Church and Santa Remedios Church (Tanapag) on the following dates and times:

February 18	—	6:00 p.m. (San Roque Church)
February 19	—	7:30 a.m. (San Roque Church)
February 20	—	6:00 p.m. (Santa Remedios - Tanapag)
February 21	—	6:00 p.m. (San Roque Church)
February 22	—	6:00 p.m. (San Roque Church)
February 23	—	6:00 p.m. (Santa Remedios - Tanapag)
February 24	—	6:00 p.m. (Santa Remedios - Tanapag)
February 25	—	5:30 p.m. (San Roque Church)
February 26	—	7:30 a.m. (San Roque Church)

Dinner will be served immediately at the residence of Mr. Paul Camacho in San Roque after the 5:30 p.m. mass on Saturday, February 25, 2012.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si yu'us ma'ase,

The family

A year ago, our dearly beloved wife, mother, and grandmother,

In Memoriam

FRANCISCA S. DELEON GUERRERO

Was called by her Creator.

We, the family of the late Francisca S. Deleon Guerrero would like to invite our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the anniversary of our beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily mass will be offered at St. Jude Church at:

February 14 to 17	-	6:00pm
February 18	-	7:00am
February 19	-	6:00am
February 20 to 21	-	6:00pm
February 22	-	6:00am

Rosary will be offered at 6:00pm at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Santos in Dandan on February 22nd, and dinner will be served immediately after.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are sincerely appreciated.

The Family

Science & Technology

With e-books, you can't always read what you want

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Question: Last year I bought

a Sony e-book reader, but now I'd prefer to read my e-books on the larger screen of my Samsung Galaxy tablet

computer. Is there a way I can transfer e-books I've purchased for the Sony e-reader to my tablet, which uses Kobo

e-reader software?

Answer: Yes, but not easily. While the Kobo and Sony e-readers use the same industry standard E-pub file format, Sony adds some Adobe copy-protection software that Kobo needs help to read. As a result you must register your e-reader online (see tinyurl.com/7u9zpt6), then verify you have the rights to the Sony e-book (see "to add a DRM (digital rights management) book" at tinyurl.com/7d7ynzn.)

Alternatively, you could try downloading the Sony e-reader software to your tablet computer and reading your Sony e-books that way. Your Samsung tablet uses Google's Android operating system, and there's a free Sony e-reader app in the Android Marketplace (an online store you can reach by clicking the Android Market icon on your tablet.) The app is for Android smartphones, but it will probably work on your tablet.

■ ■ ■
Q: I'm having trouble getting my photos to run in a slide show on Windows 7. I've followed the instructions, but the photos don't show up on my screen. What's the problem?

A: There are two ways to set up a slide show on Windows 7. The key in either case is to put all the photos you want to use in one file folder.

Choice No. 1 is a slide show that covers the screen. It obscures your desktop icons and toolbar, giving you a clear view of your photos.

Go to Start, then click the "Pictures" heading on the right. This will take you inside the Pictures folder as viewed with Windows Explorer. If the folder containing your photos isn't already in the Pictures folder, use your cursor to drag it there. Then click the folder containing the photos, and select "slide show" at the top of Windows Explorer to start. For a video demo, see tinyurl.com/7udfz54.

Choice No. 2 is a slide show that runs as an ever-changing desktop background picture. Because you can still see your icons and toolbar, you're able to do other things on your computer without disrupting the show.

Go to Start, then Control Panel. In the search box type "desktop background," then on the next menu click "Change desktop background." Use the "browse" button to search for folder containing the photos. For more details, see "To use your own pictures" at tinyurl.com/ydlc9vw.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

In Celebration of Her New Life † LOURDES BENAVENTE ALDAN

Lovingly known as "Lou"

February 11-1950 – February 10, 2012

of Long Beach, California, formerly of Chalan Kanoa,

District I, Saipan, was called to her eternal rest

on February 10, 2012 (Saipan Time) at the age of 62.

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Parents: Felipe Concepcion Aldan and Ana Manahane Benavente Aldan

Sister: Margarita B. Aldan (Beb)

Brother: Francisco B. Aldan (Tojo)

Niece: Encarnacion B. Aldan (Kit)

Her Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of Her:

Children: Joseph Felipe Izaguirre (Joseph Felipe Jr. and Kiela Chartae),
William Aldan Izaguirre (Miranda Eve and Avery William),
Maximo Aldan Izaguirre,
Diana-Lynn Aldan Van Meter (spouse: Jeffrey James Santos Van Meter),
Jesus Blas Cruz, Jr. (spouse: Shantell Analisa Jex-Cruz/Children:
Anniya Joylynn, Aldyn Jayden)

Brothers and Sisters and In-Laws:

Tomas B. Aldan/Elizabeth & Family (California)
Jose B. Aldan/Lydia & Family (Saipan)
Rosario B. Aldan & Family (Saipan)
Remedio A. Cernansky/Larry & Family (Pennsylvania)
Carmen A. Annis/George & Family (California)
Marcelina A. Rabauliman/Frank & Family (Saipan)
Ramon B. Aldan & Family (Saipan)
Merced A. Magofna/Olympio & Family (Guam)
Teresita A. To'omata/Iava (Scat) & Family (Saipan)
Rudolpho B. Aldan/Mara & Family (Saipan)

Adopted Grandpa & Grandma:

†Pedro (Kelung) & Maria (Fumi) Pangelinan
(Trisha, Elizabeth Ann, Peter) (Long Beach, California)

Kumaire & Best Friend: Elizabeth Ann (Ellie) Pangelinan (Long Beach, California)

Best Friend: Leilani Fonoti (Long Beach, California)

Viewing on Saturday, February 18, 2012, in Long Beach, California.

Mass of Intention at 7:00a.m. on Saturday, February 18, 2012, at St. Jude Church, Koblerville, Saipan.

Your thoughts and prayers are humbly appreciated.

Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

I Familia



Off The Wall

Sotheby's finds hidden signature on Basquiat work

LONDON (AP)—Thirty years ago, artist Jean-Michel Basquiat secretly signed one of his paintings in invisible ink, says Sotheby's auction house, which discovered the hidden autograph as it was preparing the painting for sale.

Sotheby's experts uncovered the secret this month as they were examining "Orange Sports Figure," which goes on sale Wednesday. The vibrant image of an abstract crowned figure is estimated to be worth between 3 million pounds and 4 million pounds

(\$4.7 million and \$6.3 million).

Basquiat, a graffiti artist who became a 1980s art star, signed relatively few of his canvasses. But Sotheby's said ultraviolet light revealed the artist's name and the date 1982 beneath the work's layers of acrylic and spray paint.

"The signature just popped out," Cheyenne Westphal, head of contemporary art at Sotheby's Europe, said Tuesday.

She said staff were initially "surprised, astonished and puzzled" by the signature, which

appears to have been written in the type of pen used to mark banknotes.

"Nobody else probably ever knew about this invisible inscription, and the prospect that he might have left other invisible writings on his canvasses that are only visible under ultraviolet light is very exciting," she said.

Westphal said she knew of no other invisible signature on a Basquiat work.

Basquiat's paintings are often covered in words and doodles. He signed some paintings with a crown, others with his graffiti alter ego SAMO—but relatively few with his full name.

The son of a Haitian father and Puerto Rican mother, Brooklyn-raised Basquiat developed a vibrant style influenced by Pi-

casso and the Abstract Expressionists as well as by the work of street graffiti artists.

His works celebrate icons of black culture, from athletes like Muhammad Ali and Hank Aaron to musicians like Miles Davis and Charlie Parker, and often allude to the legacy of slavery and colonialism.

Basquiat's reputation has soared since his death from a drug overdose in 1988 at the age of 27. "Untitled" sold for \$14.6 million at Sotheby's in 2007, and "Untitled (Boxer)" sold for \$13.5 million in New York in 2008.

"Orange Sports Figure" is part of Sotheby's contemporary art sale in London on Wednesday.

Westphal said the auction house had not revised the work's estimated sale price in light of the discovery.

Bulldog adopts 6 wild boar piglets in Germany

BERLIN (AP)—Forget the three little pigs hiding from the big bad wolf. These six little pigs have found a new friend in a maternal French bulldog named Baby.

The Lehnitz animal sanctuary outside Berlin said Baby took straight to the wild boar piglets when they were brought in Saturday, three days old and shivering from cold.

Sanctuary worker Norbert Damm said Wednesday that, as soon as the furry striped piglets were brought in, Baby ran over and started snuggling them and keeping them warm, even though they're almost her size.

The 8-year-old bulldog has stayed right by their side since then, making sure they're OK, Damm said.

"She thinks they're her own babies," Damm said.

It isn't the first time Baby's taken to new guests at the sanctuary—she's also raised raccoons, cats and many other animals, Damm said.

"She's an uber-mother," he said.

The piglets' own mother was likely killed by a hunter and the litter of three males and three females was found abandoned in a forest.

At the time they were found they weighed in at under a kilogram (two pounds) each but are being bottle-fed at the sanctuary and are growing well, Damm said.

He said they can't be released into the wild because they have no fear of humans, but it should be possible to set them free in a nature reserve in about three months, once they can feed themselves.

Wild boars are common in Germany, even in big cities, and herds have been growing as expanding commercial crops have provided them with more food.

Recent estimates have put the boar population at more than 10,000 in Berlin alone, where they live in extensive wooded areas and often venture into backyards and sports fields, tearing up turf to look for food.



AP

This undated photo is provided by Sotheby's which they claim shows an invisible ink signature when seen under ultraviolet light. Sotheby's says it has discovered that Jean-Michel Basquiat secretly signed one of his paintings in invisible ink.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Man arrested for allegedly cooking and eating cats

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)—In a case that has shocked even investigators, a California man is in jail for allegedly cooking and eating cats. Jason Louis Wilmert is being held in the Kern County Jail on charges alleging animal cruelty and using a pet or domesticated animal for food. Both charges are misdemeanors. Neighbors called sheriff's deputies when they heard cats wailing and screeching at the 36-year-old's house in the Bakersfield suburb of Oildale. Sheriff's spokesman Ray Pruitt says he has "never seen anything like this."

His Airness' hand gives cops clue about fake shoes

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (AP)—Police say one of the first clues the Nike shoes might be fake was the logo of Michael Jordan. The former NBA star had too many fingers, an officer wrote in his report. WSB-TV reports that the image and other tips led Gwinnett County, Ga., police to seize 78 pairs of Nike sneakers that authorities contend are counterfeit. Police say they're questioning two South Carolina women they say were traveling with the shoes when police stopped their Pontiac Grand Prix on Saturday on Interstate 85 northeast of Atlanta. Aside from Michael Jordan's six fingers, investigators said the serial numbers on the shoes' tongue did not match the numbers on the box. Officers said they could peel the Nike logos right off what appeared to be Nike Air Jordans.



AP

French bulldog named Baby, left, attends the feeding of wild boar piglets by employee Norbert Damm at the Lehnitz animal sanctuary outside Berlin, Germany, Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012.

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Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance

Friday	4:05	7:05	9:45
Saturday & Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Monday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:05	7:05	

Nicolas Cage, Ciarán Hinds, Violante Placido
Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Nicolas Cage returns as the spirit of vengeance with this sequel to 2007's Ghost Rider from the Crank team of Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor.

This Means War

Friday	4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday & Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Monday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:25	7:25	

Reese Witherspoon, Chris Pine
Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis
Two top CIA spies (Star Trek's Chris Pine and Inception's Tom Hardy) find their enduring friendship put to the ultimate test when they engage in an all-out war to win the affections of a beautiful woman (Reese Witherspoon). Chelsea Handler and T.I. Schweiger co-star in a comedy co-written by Simon Kinberg (Sherlock Holmes) and Timothy Dowling (Role Models) and directed by McG (Charlie's Angels, Terminator Salvation).

Journey2: Mysterious Island

Friday	4:15	7:15	9:55
Saturday & Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Monday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:15	7:15	

The Rock, Venessa Hudgens, Michael Caine
Adventure • Rated PG

Safe House

Friday	4:20	7:20	9:35
Saturday & Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Monday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:20	7:20	

Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds
Spy film, Thriller • Rated R

The Descendants

Friday	4:30	7:30	9:50
Saturday & Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Monday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:30	7:30	

George Clooney, Shailene Woodley
Comedy, Drama • Rated R

The Woman In Black

Friday	7:00	
Saturday & Sunday	1:00	7:00
Monday	1:00	7:00
Tuesday thru Thursday	7:00	

Daniel Radcliffe, Ciarán Hinds
Thriller, Mystery • Rated PG 13

Chronicle

Friday	4:10	7:10	9:30
Saturday & Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Monday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:10	7:10	

Dane DeHaan, Alex Russel
Thriller • Rated PG 13

The Grey

Friday	4:00	10:00
Saturday & Sunday	4:00	10:00
Monday	4:00	
Tuesday thru Thursday	4:00	

Liam Neeson, Frank Grillo
Adventure • Rated R

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Life & Style

Houston's death spurs look at her doctors, meds

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's become standard-operating procedure when a celebrity dies too young—investigators immediately go looking through their nightstand and medicine cabinet.

That effort is well under way in the death of Whitney Houston, with investigators saying Wednesday they have subpoenaed records from the singer's doctors and pharmacies who dispensed medication found in her hotel room.

The inquiries are routine in virtually all death investigations, Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter said, noting that similar measures are taken when a person dies in a car crash, shoots themselves or, as in Houston's case, dies unexpectedly.

It will be weeks before toxicology results reveal the medications and quantities, if any, that were in Houston's system when she died. The Grammy winner's history of substance abuse has added to the speculation that her death may have been caused by prescription drugs.

Abuse of prescribed medications has skyrocketed in recent years. In 2008, more than 36,000 people died from drug overdoses—triple the number from 1990—with most of these deaths caused by prescription drugs.

Drug deaths, fueled by prescription drug overdoses, now surpass motor vehicle deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Investigators have not said what medications they have recovered from Houston's room at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. The singer was found underwater in a bathtub by a member of her staff hours before she planned to attend a



In this Sept. 1, 2009 file photo, singer Whitney Houston performs on 'Good Morning America' in New York's Central Park. AP

chic pre-Grammy gala. Police have said there were no signs of foul play and Winter said there were no signs of trauma on her body when an autopsy was conducted on Sunday.

Among the scenarios that will likely be explored is whether Houston was drinking before her death, which could compound the effects of any medications she was taking.

"Sometimes people fall into a stupor when they're on a combination of drugs so they're difficult to arouse," said clinical psychiatrist and addiction specialist Dr. Karen Miotto at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Sober people who fall asleep in the bathtub will wake up when water hits their face. An impaired person may not respond the same way.

Death certificate: Houston to be buried in NJ

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Whitney Houston's death certificate shows she will be buried in the same cemetery where her father was laid to rest. The document was filed Wednesday with the

Los Angeles County Department of Health in California. It does not list a cause of death. It lists the manner of death as "pending investigation," with the immediate cause of death

listed as "deferred." Houston will be buried Saturday in Fair View Cemetery in Westfield, N.J. Her father, John Russell Houston Jr., was buried there in 2003.

Fans can follow Houston service on Web at AP site

NEW YORK (AP)—Fans worldwide who want to bid Whitney Houston farewell will be able to watch her private funeral on the Internet. Her publicist, Kristen Foster, announced that The Associated Press will be allowed a camera at the Sat-

urday ceremony in Newark, N.J. The AP will stream the service on <http://livestream.com/aplive>. The event also will be available to broadcasters via satellite. Houston was born in Newark. She died in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Saturday at the age of 48. Her body was

flown back to her native New Jersey on Monday. The service will be at New Hope Baptist Church, where she sang as a child. She will be buried in Fair View Cemetery in Westfield, where her father, John Russell Houston Jr., was buried in 2003.

Whitney Houston back on the charts after her death

NEW YORK (AP)—Fans are showing their grief over Whitney Houston's death by buying her music. Since her death, her album sales have been boosted by almost 6,000 percent. Data released late Tuesday by Nielsen SoundScan showed that Houston's album

sales for the week ending Sunday—the day after her death—were at 101,000. The week earlier, she had sold just 1,700 copies of her albums. Her "Greatest Hits" album catapulted to the No. 6 position on Billboard's Top 200 albums chart, with about 64,000

copies sold. In the past week, it had sold only 607 copies. And "I Will Always Love You" sold 195,000 digital tracks. The past week it had sold 3,000, an increase of 6,877 percent. The 48-year-old Houston was one of music's top-selling artists of all time.

'Walking Dead' star mum about show's main mystery

NEW YORK (AP)—Andrew Lincoln, who stars as Sheriff Rick Grimes in "The Walking Dead," says he loves a secret.

That's partly why Lincoln has told no one the answer to what's become the biggest mystery of the AMC zombie drama: What scientist Dr. Jenner whispered to Rick in the season one finale.

"Not even my wife knows what he whispered to me," Lincoln said in an interview Wednesday.

Lincoln said that in keeping

the secret he feels he is being true to his character in the show.

"He chooses not to tell people so why would I tell," Lincoln said of the sheriff.

What was said has only been heard by a handful of people, and the mystery has become the object of intense scrutiny by fans.

Lincoln said he realized just how curious people were when a show editor revealed he had

scrolled through hours of show footage and listened in on radio traffic to find the only two takes

where the brief remarks were audible. The cast says the contents of the conversation will be revealed this season.

Lincoln, who says the comments are "pivotal" for Rick, hints that the message

was not good news.

"This is a scientist who seemingly held all the cards to what

this epidemic is about and I do think, you know, you would imagine he would have something of value to say on that matter," Lincoln said. "Well, he chose to kill himself."

The actor also said that Rick and his ragged group of survivors will likely leave the farm where they've taken refuge this season.

"Something happens and they realize very quickly that the farm is not as secure as they may think," he said.

The series continues Sunday at 9 p.m. Eastern.



Lincoln

Dad's sudden death reveals the life he secretly led

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My father died suddenly a year ago. My sister went to his house and discovered something that deeply disturbed her. Dad was secretly gay. There were lots of materials in his home that I'm sure he never intended for us to find. Personally, I find his interests fascinating, but my sister was unhinged by it. After all, she was the one who made the discovery.

Now she's obsessed with finding out if Dad was having relations with men while Mom was alive, and if he did, did Mom know about it. I have tried telling her that there were probably lots of things that happened between our parents that are none of our business, but my sister can't let it go. She also seems upset that my reaction isn't the same as hers. I'm glad Dad was fulfilling his needs, especially in old age.

My sister was always "Daddy's girl." Any suggestions on how I can help her?

DAD'S SON IN MIAMI

DEAR SON: I'm not sure you can. But a trained therapist might be able to. Your sister's discovery was a shock because "Daddy's girl" now realizes she didn't know her father as well as she thought she did. She's reacting almost as if she, as well as her mother, may have been cheated on.

It is almost impossible to determine who knew what and when, if both the individuals are dead. I hope, with time, your sister will be able to focus on the good times she had with her father and her obsession will lessen.

DEAR ABBY: I have a co-worker, "Amber" who has always been large. She has looked like she was pregnant the entire two years I have known her. She can also be a liar and an attention-seeker.

I am pregnant for real. Soon after Amber found out, she began telling our co-workers that she, too, is pregnant—with twins.

She has said this before, and then she faked a miscarriage. She is now bringing ultrasound pictures to work that I discovered she had downloaded from Google Images.

Everyone knows Amber is lying, but she keeps it going like she believes it herself. Abby, should I try to save her the embarrassment and tell her that everyone knows she's faking? Or should I just sit back and see where the lying gets her?

REALLY EXPECTING IN CHICAGO

DEAR REALLY EXPECTING: Your co-worker appears to be mentally disturbed. This is something that should be discussed with Amber's supervisor, so perhaps an intervention can be done and she can get the help she needs. As much of a concern as this is for you, it should be even more so to her employer.

Because there is no way to predict how she might react if her fantasy is threatened, you should NOT be the person to question it. If she's taking time from work for OB/GYN appointments, her employer could request a note from the doctor.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Jared," who is the nephew of my sister's husband. Due to the family situation, this is a very weird relationship. I was widowed at 22. I am now 27, and this is the first relationship I have had since my husband died. I'm not sure what to do.

Is it wrong to date Jared? How do I introduce him to family and friends? My sister always refers to him as her nephew. That makes me feel like my relationship with him is incestuous.

MIXED UP IN WISCONSIN

DEAR MIXED UP: Because Jared isn't a blood relative, your relationship with him is not incestuous. Introduce him to family and friends as Jared, the friend you're dating. If the relationship becomes more serious, introduce him as Jared, your boyfriend or fiancé. But please stop feeling guilty about your relationship because you're doing nothing wrong.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

CNN, Larry King cut ties months after show ended

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN and longtime talk show host Larry King are cutting ties 14 months after his prime-time series ended. King did four specials for CNN within the past year. But CNN said in a statement on Wednesday

the network and King have mutually agreed to end the specials. The 78-year-old King says he has "nothing but respect for CNN." He says he's "looking forward to all the wonderful business opportunities" to which he'll now dedicate his time. Piers Morgan now has the time slot King held. He does a similar interview program.

Author wins \$100,000 prize for Jewish history

NEW YORK (AP)—The author of a history of Jews in the Soviet Union has won a \$100,000 award. The Jewish Book Council announced Wednesday that Gal Beckerman's "When They Come for Us We'll Be Gone" has won the 2012 Sami Rohr

Prize for Jewish Literature. It was Beckerman's first book. The Rohr prize honors "an author's potential to make significant contributions to Jewish literature." This year's runner-up was Abigail Green's "Moses Montefiore." Green will receive \$25,000. The Rohr prize was founded in 2007.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson **Garfield®**

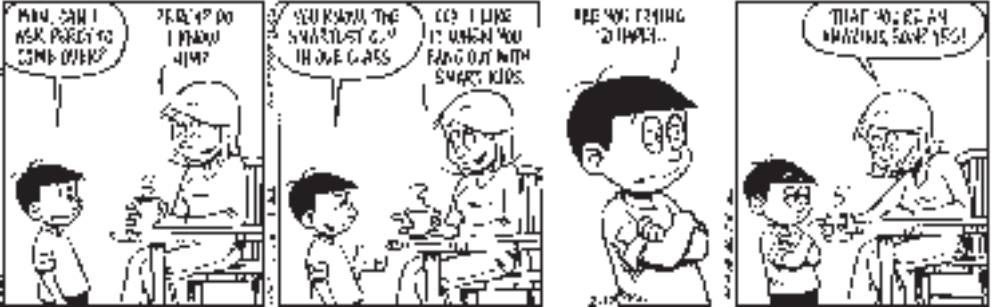
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset **The Duplex**

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Ser
4 Part of
UCLA
7 Flux in a
Mexican
menu
12 Army tank
(abbr.)
13 Road work
14 007
portrayed
Ruger
15 Jablon's
father's
old name
16 Zodiac
sign
18 Small
salami
19 14-
Across,
e.g.
20 Bronx
character
22 Long,
crescent
23 Long
story
27 Land's
dwarf
29 Hostage
taker
31 Spy
34 Neil
35 Per
income
37 A
Brooklyn
twin
38 Triangle

DOWN

1 Less
freely
2 Bath
sponge
3 Inept
one
4 'Livin' on
Vida
5 Sassy
sayer
6 Portlone,
that
may be
'devoted'
7 Esaberr
bigg
(var.)
8 Sirbade
bird
9 Aussie
hopper
10 Gashun
rink
11 Buddhist
sect
17 Campus
mil. org.
43 Big name
in mail
order
44 Cleanse
15 Break (a
habit)
46 — girl
48 Police
officer
49 Spring mo.
50 Base sale
grip
51 Wrestling
victory

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer >17

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-928-5869. Send your comments to: Editorial, Tribune, 118 North 4th St., Chicago, IL 60602.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sasha Pieterse, 16; Chord Overstreet, 23; Joseph Gordon-Levitt, 31; Denise Richards, 41.

Happy Birthday: Slow down and take into account what everyone else is doing and how others can obstruct your plans. You have to be three steps ahead in order to reach your goals. Avoid taking on responsibilities that will not benefit you directly. Ask for favors instead of making generous offers that are counterproductive. Put you first for a change. Your numbers are 3, 17, 25, 29, 31, 32, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Refrain from being overly generous with your time, information or skills. Whatever you do should benefit you personally or professionally. You'll be competitive and efficient when it comes to achieving your goals. Don't let a romantic problem slow you down. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Strive for perfection. If you are accurate, quick and agile in whatever you do, you will come out on top. Your ability to digest information will enhance the outcome of whatever you pursue. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to whatever will benefit you most. Home improvements, financial dealings or finishing a project that is in demand will bring you rewards. Interesting connections you make while marketing your talents will inspire you to expand your plans. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be undecided regarding personal versus professional responsibilities. Organization coupled with unorthodox methods will help you take care of matters of concern. Let your intuitive intelligence be your guide and you will satisfy everyone's needs. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do the things you love doing most. Don't let someone use emotional blackmail to stand in your way or make you question what you truly want. Live life your way and you will not regret your decision. Compatibility and common interests go hand-in-hand. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Concentrate on honing your skills and being the best you can be. Don't let someone else's unpredictability ruin your plans. Join a group that shares your concerns or caters to something you enjoy doing. You need a creative outlet. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Too much uncertainty is present in a relationship with someone sending mixed signals. You'll get to the bottom of a personal problem you are dealing with if you do a little investigating. Renovating or changing your surroundings will lift your spirits. ★★


SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use intelligence and intuition to come up with workable solutions to problems at home. Uncertainty regarding your future may be where your concerns originate. A change of location or networking functions you attend will help you out. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Avoid anyone who is trying to use you in any way. You can expect someone to misrepresent you or to start a rumor that will tarnish your reputation. Let the dust settle before

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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you engage in retaliation. Success is your best weapon. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emotions will well up if you let others bother you. Concentrate on your home and how you can make your surroundings more conducive to the lifestyle you want to live. Don't let someone else's decision disrupt your life. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone from your past will help you out. Get involved in a group that allows you the freedom to speak about your concerns and you will reach higher goals. A personal change you make will improve your life. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Whom you know will make a difference regarding a project you want to pursue. You'll be surprised how good it feels to put the past behind you and to pick up where you left off with someone important to your present and future. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are dedicated and strong-minded. You are impulsive and set in your ways. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	7	5	2	6	8	1	3
6	2	1	8	3	7	4	5	9
5	8	3	9	2	1	6	7	2
7	3	9	1	5	2	6	8	4
4	1	6	7	8	3	5	2	9
2	5	8	7	6	3	1	9	4
1	8	5	3	8	4	9	2	7
8	7	2	6	5	9	3	4	1
3	0	4	1	7	2	5	6	8

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: Fill in the words that are indicated by the numbers. Letters that are already in the grid are shown in bold. Letters that are not in the grid are shown in italics. The words are listed in the grid.

ANSWER: 1. SPIN, 2. FERT, 3. SASS, 4. G, 5. R, 6. G, 7. S, 8. G, 9. M, 10. F, 11. N, 12. A, 13. M, 14. S, 15. J, 16. N, 17. S, 18. I, 19. A, 20. O, 21. I, 22. N, 23. O, 24. V, 25. S, 26. N, 27. V, 28. O, 29. E, 30. H, 31. I, 32. G, 33. I, 34. A, 35. C, 36. Y, 37. G, 38. O, 39. E, 40. I, 41. K, 42. W, 43. N, 44. S, 45. N, 46. T, 47. K, 48. D, 49. M, 50. J, 51. R, 52. I, 53. V, 54. T, 55. A, 56. S, 57. K, 58. A, 59. B, 60. R, 61. I, 62. O, 63. O, 64. T, 65. A, 66. I, 67. A, 68. D, 69. P, 70. T, 71. A, 72. D, 73. R, 74. W, 75. A, 76. L, 77. B, 78. M, 79. A, 80. C, 81. U, 82. I, 83. F, 84. G, 85. O, 86. C, 87. D, 88. S, 89. U, 90. L, 91. I, 92. E, 93. W, 94. E, 95. C, 96. N, 97. A, 98. T, 99. R, 100. K, 101. U, 102. F, 103. D, 104. A, 105. H, 106. P, 107. R, 108. L, 109. E, 110. I, 111. L, 112. F, 113. H, 114. R, 115. M, 116. K, 117. P, 118. A, 119. R, 120. X, 121. M, 122. D, 123. R, 124. N, 125. S, 126. C, 127. A, 128. O, 129. S, 130. F, 131. R, 132. G, 133. F, 134. A, 135. N, 136. S, 137. I, 138. K, 139. W, 140. A, 141. P, 142. G, 143. S, 144. S, 145. L, 146. A, 147. I, 148. O, 149. M, 150. N, 151. I, 152. I, 153. M, 154. L, 155. S, 156. N, 157. A, 158. C, 159. L, 160. O, 161. T, 162. H, 163. E, 164. S, 165. G, 166. N, 167. E, 168. N, 169. S, 170. S, 171. C, 172. B, 173. P, 174. S, 175. W, 176. E, 177. D, 178. D, 179. N, 180. G, 181. S, 182. S, 183. C, 184. K

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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- Garapan, 600sq.m. Across Garapan Elem School: \$600/mo
- Dandan, 1,500 sq. m. of Land with 2 bedroom House and small warehouse: \$800/mo
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Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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Saipan Tribune

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF SAIPAN, INC.,
Plaintiff,

vs.

**CHRISTINE B. FIDELINO
and CRISETA B. FIDELINO**
Defendants.

**Civil Action
No. 08-0119**

**NOTICE
OF
PUBLIC
AUCTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to an Order issued by this Court on January 18, 2012, in which the undersigned was Ordered to levy, execute and sell, in accordance with law, a parcel of real property, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, Defendants' interest in and to the following real property situated in Publiko Drive, Lower Navy Hill Area, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as described below.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale: The sale, open to the general public (including the Defendants), will be held on **Friday, March 2, 2012, at 4:00 p.m.**, at the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, 2nd Floor of D' Torres Building in Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 8th day of February, 2012.

/s/ Sikd Soalablai, Auctioneer
Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger
Tel. No.: (670) 235-8060
e-mail : shineshine2011@live.com
(Please cc: joshua.berger711@hotmail.com)

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM,
Plaintiff,

vs.

SASAKI B. OLIVER,
Defendant.

**Small Claims
No. 09-0429**

**AMENDED
SUMMONS**

**TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT
SASAKI B. OLIVER**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO
APPEAR** by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1ST Floor, Guma' Hustisia, limwal Aweevee, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950**; and in case of failure to do so, judgment will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So ORDERED this 12th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Clerk of Court

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

**COMMONWEALTH
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY,**
Plaintiff,

-vs-

**JOAQUIN H. BORJA
and SOOK M. BORJA**
Defendant(s)

**CIVIL ACTION
NO. 11 - 0178**

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING LEAVE TO SERVE DEFENDANT SOOK M. BORJA

FOR GOOD CAUSE Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority's ("CDA") Ex Parte Motion to Serve Sook M. Borja is hereby GRANTED.

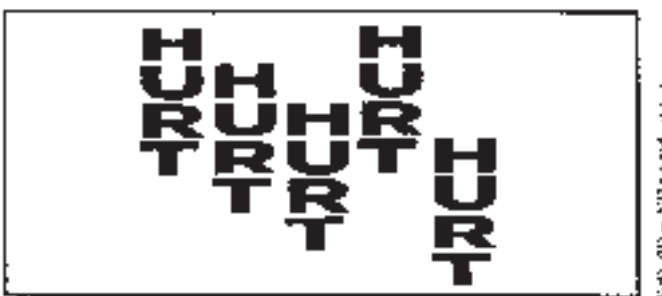
CDA is hereby given leave and shall, pursuant to 7 CMC § 1104(b), make service upon Sook M. Borja by publication in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the Commonwealth for four successive weeks, and the last publication shall be not less than twenty-one days before the return date stated herein.

Upon completion of service as ordered herein, in accordance with 7 CMC § 1102(b), Sook M. Borja shall be deemed to have been served with the same force and effect as if process had been personally served within the Commonwealth.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 30th day of January, 2012.

/s/ KENNETH L. GOVENDO,
Associate Judge

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Martin's 31 points lead Rocket over Thunder



HOUSTON (AP)—Houston's Kevin Martin tied a season high with 32 points, including the winning free throws with 23.6 seconds left, giving the Rockets a 96-95 win over the NBA Western Conference-leading Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday.

Oklahoma City's Kevin Durant missed three shots in the last 16 seconds and Houston finally grabbed the rebound on the last miss to secure the win. Goran Dragic missed a pair of free throws for Houston after that, but the Thunder didn't have time to get down the court for another shot.

Martin's performance came a night after he went scoreless for the first time in six years. He didn't score in the fourth quarter until his free throws for the win.

Durant's 33 points led the Thunder, whose lead in the West was sliced to 1-1/2 games ahead of San Antonio.

Mavericks 102, Nuggets 84

In Dallas, Shawn Marion had 16 points and 10 rebounds as Dallas beat Denver to stretch its winning streak to a season-high five games.

Vince Carter had 15 points for Dallas, which was able to limit its starters to a maximum of 27 minutes each.

Rudy Fernandez led the Nuggets with 14 points.

Magic 103, 76ers 87

In Orlando, Ryan Anderson had seven 3-pointers and 27 points to lead sharp-shooting Orlando to victory over Philadelphia.

Dwight Howard added 17 points and 14 rebounds for Orlando, which won its third straight to move within half a game of the Sixers in the Eastern Conference standings.

The Magic made 15 of 25 attempts from 3-point range, and had all five starters reach double figures for the second consecutive game.

Louis Williams led Philadelphia with 21 points and seven assists.

Hawks 101, Suns 99

In Phoenix, Josh Smith matched his season high with 30 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to rally Atlanta past Phoenix.

Smith, whose career best is 32, had 20 points and 12 rebounds in the second half.

Steve Nash, back after a night off as the Suns played their third game in three days, had 22 points and 16 assists.

Spurs 113, Raptors 106

In Toronto, Tony Parker had 34 points and 14 assists as San Antonio extended its season-best winning streak to nine games with a victory over Toronto.

Parker went 12 for 12 from the foul line for the Spurs, who have also won six successive road games.

Danny Green scored 13



Houston Rockets' Kevin Martin (12) drives against Oklahoma City Thunder's Daequan Cook (14) during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012, in Houston.

points and matched his career high with seven rebounds for San Antonio.

DeMar DeRozan scored 29 points for the Raptors, who have lost three straight.

Cavaliers 98, Pacers 87

In Cleveland, rookie Kyrie Irving scored 22 points in his return after missing three games because of a concussion, leading Cleveland past Indiana.

The 19-year-old was only cleared to play in the morning by Cavaliers doctors.

Semih Erden, starting because center Anderson Varejao is sidelined by a broken wrist, had a career-high 18 points.

Darren Collison scored 18 points for the Pacers, who have lost five straight.

Trail Blazers 93, Warriors 91

In Oakland, Jamal Crawford hit a key late 3-pointer and a two free throws to secure Portland's win over Golden State.

Gerald Wallace scored 24 points for the Trail Blazers, who had lost 11 of their previous 12 in Oakland.

David Lee matched his season high with 29 points and 11 rebounds for the Warriors.

Knicks 100, Kings 85

In New York, Jeremy Lin put aside his record-setting scoring to hand out a career-best 13 assists as New York got back to .500 with its seventh straight victory, downing Sacramento.

Lin added 10 points, focusing more on his role as a distributor while others torched the Kings for 51-percent shooting. Landry Fields had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The Knicks led almost

throughout, evening their record for the first time in a month just as All-Star forward Carmelo Anthony prepares to return from a groin strain.

Tyreke Evans scored 19 points for the Kings.

Clippers 102, Wizards 84

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin had 23 points and 15 rebounds to power Los Angeles past Washington.

Caron Butler added 21 points for the Clippers, who increased their lead in the Pacific Division to two games over the idle Lakers. The Clippers have beaten the Wizards seven consecutive times.

John Wall and JaVale McGee led Washington with 18 points each.

Pistons 98, Celtics 88

In Boston, Ben Gordon hit three 3-pointers in the opening stages of the fourth quarter during a game-breaking spree that sent Detroit past Boston.

Rodney Stuckey scored 25 points and Gordon finished with 22 points for the Pistons.

Rajon Rondo had a season-high 35 points for Boston one game after he recorded a triple-double. Kevin Garnett was a late withdrawal with a hip flexor complaint.

Grizzlies 105, Nets 100

In Newark, New Jersey, Rudy Gay scored 25 points as Memphis handed error-prone New Jersey its season-worst seventh straight loss.

Tony Allen matched his season high with 21 points for the Grizzlies.

Deron Williams scored 20 of his 26 points in the first half for

the Nets.

Hornets 92, Bucks 89

In Milwaukee, Marco Belinelli made a career-high six 3-pointers and scored a season-best 22 points to lead undermanned New Orleans past Milwaukee.

Chris Kaman added 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Hornets,

who won successive games for the first time since the opening two of the season.

Ersan Ilyasova led the Bucks with a season-high 23 points.

Timberwolves 102, Bobcats 90

In Minneapolis, Kevin Love had 30 points and 18 rebounds as

Minnesota handed Charlotte its 16th loss in a row.

Nikola Pekovic added 21 points and 11 rebounds in 43 minutes for the Timberwolves, who snapped a four-game skid of their own.

Kemba Walker had 21 points and six rebounds for the hapless Bobcats.

From New York to Asia, Lin is a hoops sensation

NEW YORK (AP)—Bigger than Shaq? Larger than LeBron? The Knicks as NBA champions?

(Don't laugh too hard at that last one. The odds are getting better, according to one online sports book.)

Nothing seems too Lin-possible now after Jeremy Lin's incredible first week as an NBA starter, and the story keeps getting better.

The undrafted player from Harvard made a 3-pointer with five-tenths of a second left Tuesday night to give the Knicks a 90-87 victory at Toronto.

Lin and the Knicks returned home Wednesday night and ran their winning streak to seven games with a 100-85 victory against Sacramento that got them back to .500 after an 8-15 start.

Lin joined the rotation only then, starting the last five games, so hold off on making him a Michael Jordan, Shaquille O'Neal or LeBron James just yet. But the Knicks have seen enough to believe this ride may last a while.

"I don't know when there's an ending, maybe there won't," coach Mike D'Antoni said.

Lin's story has blown straight past the New York sports pages and all their cute headlines such as "Va-Lin-tine's Day," all the way to a basketball-crazed continent on the other side of the world, where he's been "kind of like the great Asian hope," said Orin Starn, professor and chair of Cultural Anthropology at Duke.

Lin has done wonders for shares of Madison Square Garden Inc., the company that owns the Knicks, the Garden and the namesake sports network. The stock has surged 9 percent since Lin began his heroics Feb. 4, reaching an all-time high of \$33.18 earlier this week before retreating slightly to close at \$31.91 Wednesday.

"Rangers and Knicks fans do tend to buy the stock when the teams are doing well," Miller Tabak analyst David Joyce said.

And Linsanity has reached America's most powerful basketball fan, with President Barack Obama talking about Lin's winner Wednesday.

White House spokesman Jay Carney called Lin "just a great story, and the president was saying as much this morning."

Lin arrived in New York in December with no guarantee he'd last more than a few weeks. Already cut by Golden State and Houston this season, he was so hesitant to get comfortable in his new home that he refused to

even get his own place.

Instead, he slept at his brother's place in the city, and had crashed on teammate Landry Fields' couch the night before his breakout game against New Jersey on Feb. 4.

Even an Ivy League education couldn't help Lin explain what's happened since—the most points in any player's first five games as a starter since the NBA merged with the ABA in 1976, and a contract that's guaranteed for the rest of the season.

"No, but I believe in an all-powerful and all-knowing God who does miracles," Lin said.

If that sounds familiar, yes, Lin has been frequently compared to Denver quarterback Tim Tebow. Both relied on their faith as much as their previously overlooked skills to guide them through hot streaks that made them sensations even beyond their sports.

Tebow carried the Broncos right into the playoffs, and now there are some who believe Lin can do the same with the Knicks.

The Knicks were 40-1 odds to win the NBA championship on Bovada.lv before Lin's run began. Now, they're down to an 18-1 shot and conjuring up memories of another New York team.

"A guy like this is great for the game and has drawn a lot of interest from bettors on the Knicks games also," Kevin Bradley, the sports book's manager, said in a statement. "I am having visions of how the public was treating the Giants going into the Super Bowl being the hottest team in the NFL and costing us a mint, and right now the Knicks are by far the biggest loser for the book."

Not everybody is convinced. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. played down Lin mania on Twitter, saying that Lin is just doing what plenty of black players do but is getting more attention because of his Asian heritage.

And Lin is certain to cool off. It's one thing to beat teams such as the Nets and Wizards when they've barely had time to learn your name. It's another when NBA defenses are prepared to stop you.

"He's a marked man now, he's not going to sneak up on anybody, and every night's going to be tough," D'Antoni said.

Then again, Kobe Bryant had said he wasn't familiar with Lin's game and would have to study up on him. The next night, Lin burned the Lakers for a ca-

reer-high 38 points in a nationally televised victory.

That was a huge moment in Taiwan, which Lin's parents left in the 1970s. Asia lost its biggest basketball star when Yao Ming retired last summer, but ratings are up in China, and TV stations around the continent have rushed to add Knicks games to their broadcasts.

"I like Jeremy Lin (more than Yao Ming) because Yao Ming was already famous (when he started playing in NBA). For Lin, it's like nobody had heard of him before. Kobe gave an interview saying he did not know who Lin was. So this is truly a rising star," Taiwanese university student Zhang Gan-yu said.

Lin has been gaining followers on social media and had the NBA's top-selling jersey online in the first week it was available. With Knicks games blacked out to many New Yorkers because of a local cable dispute, the Knicks held their first viewing party in Chinatown on Wednesday night.

Their hero had a relatively quiet game, scoring only 10 points with a career-high 13 assists in a 100-84 victory at home against Sacramento. Still, when it was over, the adoring Garden fans chanted "M-V-P" as he was doing a postgame interview on the court.

Lin is the NBA's first American-born player of Chinese or Taiwanese descent. Starn called his emergence sort of a "coming-out party for Asian-Americans," who he said haven't had a significant presence in entertainment despite their growing population. And certainly not on the basketball court.

"I think it is appealing to a lot of Americans when somebody comes along that seems to break out of this set of stereotypes—and in this case, an Asian-American from the heart of the Silicon Valley," Starn said. "I think Jeremy Lin has this special kind of attraction because he seems to capture this visibility of Asian-Americans."

But Lin will have to have lasting success to be just a short-term phenomenon, even to Asians. Yao was beloved because he proved to be an All-Star. Yi Jianlian, drafted in 2007 and now with his fourth NBA team, has seen his popularity wane because he is a journeyman.

Not to worry, D'Antoni says. Lin's the real thing.

"He's going to be a good player," D'Antoni said.

New study tries to answer old boxing question



LAS VEGAS (AP)—The question has puzzled doctors since the days Joe Louis ruled the heavy-weight division and boxing rivaled baseball as the biggest sport in the nation:

Why do some fighters suffer brain damage from punches taken in the ring while others get hit in the head for years and show few effects?

A study that has applications outside of boxing could provide at least a partial answer to that one and this, too: Why do some football players suffer concussions while others don't?

Researchers say their intent isn't to end contact sports, but to find ways to make them safer.

"You can't stop these sports, and the last thing we want to do is stop these sports," said Dr. Charles Bernick, the chief investigator for the project. "But we want to be able to protect athletes from long-term brain issues."

Some 148 current boxers and mixed martial arts fighters have already taken their first set of tests for the study, funded mostly by Las Vegas hotel magnate Kirk Kerkorian and conducted at the Cleveland Clinic's new Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in downtown Las Vegas. Researchers hope to eventually enroll more than 600 fighters in what is hoped to be at least a four-year study of their brains.

The motive for most of the fighters is simple—they save \$800 to \$1,000 for a baseline MRI they would need anyway to get a state license to box or participate in professional MMA. For some, though, it is more about peace of mind than it is about the money.

"It's my profession and I want to pursue a long, healthy life," said Diego Magdaleno, an undefeated super featherweight currently ranked No. 2 by the World Boxing Association. "If there is anything that will help me keep from going into the deep end with any kind of severe injury I'm all for it."

That the study—the first big project for the new center—is based in Las Vegas is fitting because the city is recognized as the boxing capital of the world and is also the headquarters of the Ultimate Fighting Championship. A gala celebrating Muhammad Ali's 70th birthday on Saturday at the MGM Grand—site of most of boxing's major fights during the past two decades—is a fundraiser for the center.

Ali suffers from Parkinson's disease, a degenerative brain condition that some doctors say can be brought on by punches to the head. Ali's own neurologist told The Associated Press last month, however, that he didn't believe the former heavyweight great's condition was caused by head blows.

Bernick said much still isn't

known about why some fighters develop Alzheimer's or dementia pugilistica—also known as punch drunk syndrome—while others seem to suffer little from repeated hits to the head. The study, he said, could lead to better ways to predict which fighters are more at risk for brain damage later in their lives.

"Our study is not to prove that getting hit in the head will lead to brain damage. We know that already in some sense," he said. "We know being exposed to repetitive blows to the head is a risk factor to developing these conditions, but you can't prove it in any one person unless you have an autopsy."

The list of boxers who suffered from brain damage is a long one, and goes back a long way. Louis had dementia symptoms late in life, while Sugar Ray Robinson—who sometimes boxed every other week and fought an astonishing 1,403 rounds in his career—developed Alzheimer's disease in his later years. Jerry Quarry, a heavyweight contender who fought Ali twice, died at the age of 53 from dementia pugilistica, while his brother, Mike, a light heavyweight, died from the same thing at age of 55.

As far back as 1928, doctors were studying the causes of brain damage in boxing. That year, Dr. Harrison S. Martland told the New York Pathological Society about his observations of fighters:

"Fighters in whom the early symptoms are well recognized are said by the fans to be 'cuckoo,' 'goofy,' 'cutting paper dolls,' or 'slug nutty,'" Martland said. "Punch drunk most often affects fighters of the slugging type, who are usually poor boxers and who take considerable head punishment, seeking only to land a knockout blow. It is also common in second rate fighters used for training purposes, who may be knocked down several times a day."

Still, there are large numbers of fighters who have never suffered any noticeable brain damage, and doctors have yet to pinpoint why these athletes don't seem to be affected by repeated blows to the head.

"We don't know why two individuals both exposed to the same number of blows and years of fighting, why one person develops chronic brain disorders and one doesn't," Bernick said. "When it comes to cumulative head trauma there are many, many things we just don't know."

During their first visit to the clinic, fighters are given an MRI and a series of cognitive and memory tests. They are tested for judgment and reasoning, and doctors look for signs of impulsiveness and depression. The tests will be used as a baseline for annual checks, and researchers will study all the data to see if there are common links.

"We would hope it would go on forever, but we need at least four years," Bernick said. "We hope to learn enough by then to give us some insight into what happens in real time to individuals involved in activities where they are exposed to head trauma."

Bernick said the study may provide valuable information that can be used in other sports, like football, where concussions are an ongoing issue. The Cleveland Clinic is also involved in concussion studies, including one which looks into the effectiveness of a blood test in identifying concussions in college football players.

Promoter Bob Arum said he welcomes the study, which, he

said, could be particularly useful when a boxer is deciding how long he will fight.

"A lot of questions people have about when is enough enough will be able to be somewhat solved by what's being done there," Arum said. "We'll have a body of facts and evidence that we never had before."

Magdaleno, who has been fighting since the age of 8 and has had 132 amateur and 21 professional fights, went with his brother, Jesse, also a professional fighter, for his first test at the clinic. He plans to take the battery of tests after his upcoming March 23 fight against Miguel Beltran Jr. in Tucson, Ariz.

NCAA providing glimpse of selection process



The NCAA, for the first time this season, is giving the public the same information the men's basketball committee uses to select teams for the NCAA tournament.

Even with all those numbers available, there's sure to be plenty of scrutiny when the final 68 teams are selected next month.

"There are frankly a lot of good basketball teams out there that are playing very good basketball and that adds to the challenge for the 10 committee members here in the selection room," NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee chairman Jeff Hathaway said Wednesday during a teleconference.

Selecting the teams for the NCAA tournament is one of the most dissected behind-the-scenes processes in all of sports. When the tournament added three teams to the bracket last season, the microscope seemed to zoom in even more.

This season, the NCAA added a link to its website that ranks teams by RPI, including an expanded comparison of overall and conference records, strength of schedule and records against teams within various categories of RPIs.

There's also a link for the team sheets of all 344 Division I teams, which break down the raw RPI numbers for every game on a team's schedule—the same sheets the selection committee looks at when deciding which teams to include in the bracket.

The idea was to give the teams, fans and media a look at what the committee is basing its decisions on, though the numbers aren't the only indicators they use.

"Certainly, you need to watch teams play and I think the majority of us see teams play on multiple occasions," said Hathaway, who retired as Connecticut's athletic director last year and is now an adviser for the Big East Conference. "That gives you some further insight. How a team looks is crucial and we get out and see games throughout the season. We need to go beyond the numbers." Last year proved that.

Virginia Commonwealth was considered a bubble team last season, one many thought more deserving of the NIT than a spot in the NCAA tournament. The Rams not only got in, they proved nearly everyone wrong with an improbable run to the Final Four, where they joined fellow mid-major Butler in Houston.

VCU's unexpected finish and the strong class of mid-majors this season give the tournament selection committee another thing to factor in during what is already shaping up to be a tough process to fill the bracket.

"The bottom line for us as a committee is that there is more quality spread throughout college basketball than we've seen in the past couple years," Hathaway said.

One change the committee will make for this year's NCAA tournament involves the final four teams that make the bracket.

When the NCAA expanded to a 68-team field last season, it decided to have a pair of play-in games called the First Four, to be played in Dayton, Ohio, the Tuesday before the main bracket started.

Clemson was among the First Four and, after winning its opening game, had a short turnaround and a long trip, playing two days later in Tampa, Fla. The tired Tigers ended up losing to West Virginia in the first round.

After evaluating last year's First Four games, Hathaway said changes will likely be made this year to avoid the travel troubles Clemson experienced, possibly putting those first teams in a bracket where the next games aren't so far away.

"You won't see them play in the first afternoon session and that's what occurred last year in the Clemson situation," Hathaway said from Indianapolis, where the committee is going through a mock selection with members of the media. "The other thing you likely will see is that there are sites that are closer to Dayton—Columbus, Pitt—and it's an easier travel situation, also including Louisville and Nashville."

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Penn State's Paterno remembered at Pa. memorial

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Former Penn State football coach Joe Paterno was remembered at a memorial Mass on Wednesday as an inspirational leader, devoted family man and someone who tried to live according to the tenets of his religion.

“He was not afraid to be the fully alive human being that God called him to be,” said Bishop Joseph McFadden, during the 90-minute ceremony at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in downtown Harrisburg.

Paterno's son Scott recalled

how his father valued a round, wooden dining room table, describing it as a metaphor for his inclusive approach to life.

“That table was to my father what the Academy was to Plato,” Scott Paterno said.

Joe Paterno died at age 85 last month after a brief battle with lung cancer. The final months of his life were marked by a child sex-abuse scandal for which his former assistant, Jerry Sandusky, awaits trial on 52 criminal counts. Sandusky denies the allegations.

Scott Paterno said his father showed courage and confidence as death approached, and he exhibited no fear or anxiety.

“I watched my father live every day he had left without malice in his heart or bitterness on his lips,” he told the hundreds of people inside the cavernous Roman Catholic church. “He was determined at every turn, in every moment, to ensure that he made an impact.”

Among the attendees was Gov. Tom Corbett, who did not speak at the memorial but told reporters afterward he wanted to be there because he missed the Jan. 25 funeral and memorial services in State College, where thousands of mourners packed the basketball arena following the former coach's burial.

“This is my way of honoring



Joe,” Corbett said. “I’m very glad I was able to be here.”

Joe Paterno spent 46 seasons leading the Penn State program, and remains the winningest coach in major college football.

He was fired by the Board of Trustees in November, shortly after he declared he would retire at the end of the season. He said he was “absolutely devastated” by the abuse case.

Scott Paterno, left, greets former Penn State player Dick Hoke after a memorial Mass for Paterno's father, former Penn State football coach Joe Paterno, at the Cathedral Parish of St. Patrick in Harrisburg, Pa., Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2012. AP

Orioles VP: Team no longer interested in Ramirez

BALTIMORE (AP)—The Baltimore Orioles are no longer interested in free agent slugger Manny Ramirez.

Dan Duquette, the Orioles vice president of baseball operations, told The Associated Press on Tuesday, “I don’t know that Manny Ramirez is a fit for our club right now.”

The 39-year-old Ramirez retired last season rather than serve a suspension for violating Major League Baseball's drug policy. He was suspended for 100 games, but the ban was trimmed to 50 games because he sat out nearly all of the 2011 season. The suspension would start with the first

game he is eligible to play after signing with a club.

A week ago, Duquette said he had conducted exploratory talks with Ramirez's agent. But Duquette also acknowledged that signing Ramirez would not come without risk.

“We’re still considering the composition of this club and some of the challenges of integrating a player like Manny into our ball club and market,” Duquette said at the time.

On Tuesday, it was evident that Duquette didn’t want Manny being Manny in Baltimore.

“It just doesn’t look like it’s a fit right now,” he said.

Ramirez has 555 career home runs, 1,831 RBIs and a .312

lifetime average. He’s also a 12-time All-Star.

But he comes with baggage. Ramirez was suspended for 50 games in 2009 for violating the league's drug policy before being cited again last April during his first season with the Tampa Bay Rays.

Duquette believes the Orioles have enough power in the lineup without Ramirez, who wouldn’t be eligible to play until sometime in May.

“Offensively, we have four hitters in our lineup who hit 20 home runs last year,” Duquette said, referring to Mark Reynolds (37 homers), J.J. Hardy (30), Adam Jones (25) and Matt Wieters (22). “Not many clubs have that.”

MLB BRIEFS

OF Kosuke Fukudome, White Sox agree to \$1M deal

CHICAGO (AP)—Kosuke Fukudome is joining the Chicago White Sox for a fraction of the price he cost the Cubs four years ago. The outfielder agreed Tuesday to a one-year contract that guarantees \$1 million. He will get a \$500,000 salary this year, and the White Sox have a \$3.5 million option for 2013 with a \$500,000 buyout. Now 34, Fukudome joined the Cubs for the 2008 season with a \$48 million, four-year contract. An All-Star in 2008, he was traded to Cleveland

last July 28.

Brewers beat reliever Veras in salary arbitration

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Milwaukee has won its arbitration case against reliever Jose Veras, giving teams a 4-2 lead over players this year. Veras was awarded a \$2 million salary by a three-person panel Tuesday rather than his request for \$2,375,000. Arbitrators Dan Brent, Marlene Gold and John Sands made the decision one day after hearing arguments. Veras was 2-4 with a 3.80 ERA in a career-high 79 appearances for

Pittsburgh last season, when he made \$1.35 million. The right-hander, who also played for the Yankees, Cleveland and Florida, was obtained on Dec. 12 for third baseman Casey McGehee. Two years ago, outfielder Corey Hart beat the Brewers in Milwaukee's first case since Jose Mercedes won in 1998. Sands was on the panel for Hart's case. Washington's John Lannan, Tampa Bay's Jeff Niemann and Baltimore's Brad Bergesen also lost their cases. Miami's Anibal Sanchez and Emilio Bonifacio won. Three players remain scheduled for hearings this week.

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Ayuyus escape Knights in boys caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The Kagman High School Ayuyus narrowly survived a third quarter uprising by the Mount Carmel School Knights, 64-61, in Wednesday's Marianas Inter-scholastic Sports Organization boys basketball varsity match held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The win improved KHS' win-loss record to 4-1, while MCS came ever so close to its first win in its seventh attempt.

Meanwhile, the MHS Junior Dolphins crushed the Saipan International School Geckos, 61-13, in the junior varsity pairing.

As a result, top ranked MHS improved its unbeaten streak to five in a row; SIS remains winless after five games.

In the varsity match, a 3-pointer by KHS' Mike Taitano helped cap a 13-5 lead for the Ayuyus in the opening 10 minutes.

KHS then went a little flat in the second quarter and were contained to just eight points in the period, while MCS shaved a basket off its deficit. KHS still led it, 21-15, at intermission.

To much surprise, the Knights came out with reckless abandon



Kagman High School's Joshua Jones goes right at Mount Carmel School's center Thomas Kautz late in the fourth quarter of Wednesday's MISO boys basketball varsity matchup held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

in the third quarter and turned the tables on the Ayuyus, 40-34, heading into crunch time.

MCS' Angelo Montes

caught fire with nine markers in the comeback and received mixed support from his fellow Knights.

MCS held its lead through most of the fourth quarter until KHS bruiser Frank Mettao knotted up the score at 59-all with just 50 seconds left in regulation.

Just seconds later, it was KHS' Jason Lampkin turn to come up big in the clutch. Lampkin made his way to the free throw line and canned one of two shots to put the Ayuyus ahead, 60-59, with just over 30 seconds left on the clock.

Lampkin and Mettao both played like beasts down low in the trenches and muscled their way to the victory in the final minute.

The duo was relentless in their attacks under their own basket and wrestled down a number of crucial rebounds, which enabled a pair of deciding putback baskets in the final seconds.

Mettao finished the game with 20 points, while MCS' Reynald Cabaltica led the field with 22.

In the junior varsity game, MHS swiftly jumped out to an early 16-0 lead in the opening period. Five points by MHS' John Capuyon was complimented by a three-ball from teammate Michael Yap in the first quarter.

MHS was just getting started and shot further ahead, 24-4, at halftime.

Then after the break it went from bad to worse for the Geckos as MHS did not let up in the third

quarter, but instead gashed SIS again and ran up a daunting 41-6 lead heading into the last period.

SIS' Chris Cepeda was held scoreless for the first three quarters of the game and only managed a handful of points in garbage time, however he still managed to lead his team in points.

MHS' Yap topped the box score with 11 markers as every player on the Junior Dolphins roster came away from the game with at least one basket.

The season continues today at the MHS Gym with a 4pm junior varsity match between SIS and Grace Christian Academy Junior Eagles (3-2); there will be no varsity game.

VARSITY

KHS 64 – Mettao 20, Lampkins 17, Jones 10, Taitano 10, Santiago 4, Santos 2.

MCS 61 – Cabaltica 22, Kautz 13, Montes 11, S. Kim 6, Igitol 5, Taguchi 2, K. Kim 2, Pamintuan 1.

Scoring by quarters: 13-5, 21-15, 34-40, 64-61.

JUNIOR VARSITY

MHS 61 – Yap 11, Dai 8, Capuyon 7, Camacho 7, Palacios 7, Ogumoro 6, Floresca 5, Sanarez 4, Manalili 4, Aguilar 2.

SIS 13 – Cepeda 5, Yoon 4, B Kim 2, Liu 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-0, 24-4, 41-6, 61-13.

February roll-off this Sunday, Monday



The Saipan Bowling Association will hold its February roll-offs at the Capital Bowling Center in Garapan this Sunday and on Monday.

Three monthly titles will be at stake in the Feb. 19 and 20 tournaments.

In the Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes, male and female adult bowlers will battle for the February plum for two days. Sunday's roll-off will begin at 4pm, while Sunday's will start at 6pm. Keglers can bowl on either days or both, but only the higher score will be counted.

Entry fee is \$15 and only

the first 48 bowlers to register will be allowed to compete. Cash prizes for the King of the Lanes will depend on the number of entries, while the Queen of the Lanes will only give cash prizes provided at least 10 female keggers will join the tournament.

In the Fiji Water Prince/Princess of the Lanes, the competition will be played only on Sunday. Entry fee is only \$10 and youth bowler must also pay the \$10 membership fee to qualify for the monthly tournaments. Membership fee for adults is \$15.

To register, please contact Gigi or Ross Zapanta at 288-5627 or via email at zapanta@pticom.com. (PR)

ATHLETES

From Page 32

advancing to the second round of the 2011 IAAF World Championships in Daegu, Korea. Bennett timed in at 12.78 seconds in the 100m preliminary run to place fifth in her heat.

First-timers

Joining Bennett on the elite list were baseball's Joshua Jones, tennis' Rafael Jones, and fellow sprinter Rachel Abrams.

Joshua Jones clinched his first Male Athlete of the Year award, earning the coveted plum for leading the CNMI to a gold medal win against Guam in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

The lefty pitched for the CNMI and did a superb job at the mound, lifting the Commonwealth to an 8-4 victory against Guam in the finals. Joshua Jones, who was the losing pitcher against Guam in the preliminaries, took the mound in the third inning and stayed there until the last and got his vengeance when he gave up only two runs, one each in the third and sixth inning.

Jones' final statistics at the Games were 5-0 win-loss record, 30.2 innings pitch, and 42 strikeouts. He allowed only one earned runs and had eight base on balls for an impressive .111 ERA

Abrams also represented the CNMI to the 2011 Pacific



The top athletes for 2011 pose with their trophies and life-sized cutoffs during the NMASA award ceremony last night at the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel. From left Rafael Jones, Lillian and Ambrose Bennett (representing Yvonne Bennett), Joshua Jones, and Rachel Abrams.

Games and made history for CNMI athletics. She timed in at 27.46 seconds in the qualifying heat for the 200m run, finished second, and claimed a finals slot. Abrams was the first CNMI female sprinter to advanced to the finals of a race in the Pacific Games.

Three months before going to New Caledonia, Abrams was in Palau and helped the CNMI U15 team win the silver medal in the 2011 Micronesian Basketball Tournament.

Her impressive performance in 2011 earned Abrams the Tan Siu Lin Foundation/NMASA Female Student Athlete of the

Year honors, sharing the award with Rafael Jones.

Rafael Jones ruled the boys U18 division of the 2011 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam, competed in a couple of Junior ITF events in Fiji, and finished in the Top 4 in the 2011 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships, also played in Fiji. With his strong showing in U18 tournaments, Jones also competed in adult events and held his ground against much experience foes.

All four top athletes received trophies and a life-sized cutout of themselves, courtesy of the TSL Founda-

tion. Abrams and Rafael Jones also took home prize packages from the foundation.

Meanwhile, Vicente Saures was inducted to the CNMI Hall of Fame for his outstanding contribution to volleyball from the 1960s to 1980s. He was supposed to attend the ceremony, but a flight delay prevented him from doing so. Vicente's brother, Joe, accepted the award on the former's behalf.

Sports officials, athletes and their families, and NMASA supporters attended the awards ceremony with NMASA president Michael A. White leading the presentation of awardees.

BASEBALL

From Page 32

also had her hands full organizing local tournaments and taking an active role in the de-

velopment of baseball in the region. She was elected to the Executive Committee of the Basketball Confederation of Oceania last year, making her the first female to be selected to the prestigious organization.

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NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	20	10	.667	—
Boston	15	13	.536	4
New York	15	15	.500	5
Toronto	9	22	.290	11 1/2
New Jersey	8	22	.267	12

Southeast Division

Miami	23	7	.767	—
Atlanta	19	11	.633	4
Orlando	19	11	.633	4
Washington	7	23	.233	16
Charlotte	3	26	.103	19 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	24	7	.774	—
Indiana	17	12	.586	6
Milwaukee	12	17	.414	11
Cleveland	11	16	.407	11
Detroit	9	22	.290	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	21	9	.700	—
Dallas	19	11	.633	2
Houston	17	13	.567	4
Memphis	16	14	.533	5
New Orleans	6	23	.207	14 1/2

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	22	7	.759	—
Denver	17	13	.567	5 1/2
Portland	16	14	.533	6 1/2
Utah	14	14	.500	7 1/2
Minnesota	14	16	.467	8 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	18	9	.667	—
L.A. Lakers	17	12	.586	2
Golden State	11	15	.423	6 1/2
Phoenix	12	18	.400	7 1/2
Sacramento	10	19	.345	9

Yesterday's Games

San Antonio 113, Toronto 106
Orlando 103, Philadelphia 87
Detroit 98, Boston 88
Cleveland 98, Indiana 87
Memphis 105, New Jersey 100
New York 100, Sacramento 85
Houston 96, Oklahoma City 95
Minnesota 102, Charlotte 90
New Orleans 92, Milwaukee 89
Dallas 102, Denver 84
Atlanta 101, Phoenix 99
Portland 93, Golden State 91
L.A. Clippers 102, Washington 84

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Haus, Mobil in deadlock

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Defending champion Blue Haus and Mobil Smiles were involved in a

controversial stalemate during the second game in the 2nd Domino Lux International Fraternity/Miller Lite Basketball Invitational Friendship League last Wednesday night.

The game ended in a tie after the regulation, 92-all, following the split free throws of Mobil's Angelo Fernando. Fernando trooped to the 15-foot line with no time left after referee Lito Salas charged a foul on a Blue Haus defender in a loose ball play.

The last-second call drew a protest from Blue Haus camp, which contended that there was no time left when Salas made the whistle. Mobil coach Marvin Deocares also had his share of arguments with the referees and league officials, saying the call was made simultaneously at the end of the buzzer.

Before the controversial foul, Blue Haus was ahead by two, 92-90, after Bernardo Aquino canned a triple from the left keep off a kickoff pass from Brandon Talania, 11.3 seconds left in regulation.

Mobil sued for time and when the game resumed, Jun Estolas drove to the basket and missed. However, he got his own miss, attempted again and muffed his shot anew, but drew a foul from Aquino, 1.6 second remaining on the clock.

Estolas calmly sank the first



Mobil Smiles' Gyles Ruloked, center, slices through the defense of Blue Haus' Elmer Esdreton, while Jomar Tumaquip looks on during the second quarter of their game in the DLX/Miller Lite caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

charity and later taunted Blue Haus supporters, who egged the Mobil guard to miss his free

shots. Estolas then pulled up for the second free throw and this time missed. He went up for an

offensive rebound when the ball bounced toward the left shaded lane, but failed and there was

a battle for the loose ball when the leather fell on the ground. Fernando had a hand on the ball against two Blue Haus defenders and Salas charged the defending champion a foul. Later, Salas could not remember who committed the foul.

Both camps celebrated when the buzzer sounded and that created confusion. Then it took league officials and the referees about 30 minutes to make the final decision. Blue Haus coach Dante Olivos, who earlier told officials they were giving the win to Mobil, agreed on the referees and table officials' decision to award two free throws to Fernando. Fernando's first free throw rattled off the rim and the second one hit nothing but the net for the deadlock. League officials then decided to reschedule the extra five minutes of play on a later date, as it was almost 11pm and most of the players had already left.

Blue Haus and Mobil came into last Wednesday's game after winning their opening matches last Saturday. The match was neck-and-neck in the first 15 minutes of play before the defending champion managed to create some distance and led by as much as eight midway in the second canto behind the three straight triples of Elmer Esdreton.

The advantage went up to as high as 10 in the third, 71-61, but Mobil recovered behind Gyles Ruloked, who was cherry-picking at the baseline, making short jumpers and reverse shots.

Mobil continued to bounce back and finally grabbed the lead, 81-80, after Fernando's drive, 5:01 left in regulation. There were lead changes in

the ensuing plays, before Mobil boosted its chances to steal the win when Bart Demapan canned a baseline jumper for their, 90-87, 44.8 seconds remaining on the clock.

Blue Haus answered with a quick two from Talania's right baseline jumper to move within one, 89-90, and the defending champion regained possession after referee Jess Pabula caught Estolas dribbling the ball at the baseline mark after the inbound play. Blue Haus had 25.1 seconds left to work on a play and patiently moved the ball around until Talania found Aquino open for the big triple.

Sunrisers 66, Andhok's 63

Meanwhile, two more teams debuted in the DLX/Miller Lite caging with the Sunrisers edging Andhok's Grille.

The Sunrisers escaped with the win after converting three free throws in the homestretch. The Sunrisers trailed in the second and third quarters, but outgunned Andhok's in the fourth, 17-12, to steal the victory. Pete Lizama and Josh Sablan scored 11 of the Sunrisers' total production in the fourth quarter.

Lizama paced the Sunrisers with 17 points, while Sablan and Jawn Joyner added 13 and 12 markers, respectively.

Sunrisers 66 – Lizama 17, Sablan 13, Joyner 12, Quitugua 6, Basa 5, Peters 4, Mendez 4, Manibusan 2.

Andhok's Grille 63 – Libuw 16m Wesley 10, De Guzman 10, Camacho 8, Capalad 5, Olaitiman 4, Umali 3, Artates 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-9, 35-36, 49-50, 66-63.

Saipan Little League opening day a go

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Saipan Little League Baseball Inc.'s board of directors

has decided to go ahead with this Saturday's 9am opening ceremony at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

SLLBI president Juan I. Tenorio along with some other board members were at Tan Ko field yesterday awaiting team managers to submit their required paperwork and entrance fee deposits, which are needed before the teams will be allowed to participate; board members will also be at Tan Ko field today conducting the same procedure.

In the past, the SLLBI has featured rematches of last year's divisional championships on opening day, however, due to the rules compliances issues, officials may have to make tweaks to the game schedule in order to keep forfeits to a minimum.

Team managers were instructed back in October about the board's plans of submitting official Little League baseball team rosters and volunteer forms to the LLB head office

in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. All coaches and managers are required to register as official LLB volunteers and undergo local background checks or else the SLLBI may face sanctions on the national level.

The managers and coaches received such documents over a month ago and have had ample time to have their teams ready to go by opening day.

In fact, the managers and coaches got to pick the date for this year's opening day and their request of only having to pay half of each team's \$500 entrance fee by Saturday was also approved by the board, however with one day left before the opener, many teams have not delivered their end of the deal and still only seven of the teams have submitted their entrance fee deposits.

There are some rumors about some sponsors pulling out from teams, but the teams' respective coaches have not confirmed such stories.

In any rate, Tenorio and the board have issued the green light and are remaining positive about the upcoming season.

"We welcome all of the parents to come out and spend some time at the ball park on Saturday to spend some qual-

ity time with their kids. Once we get these documentation requirements fulfilled and collect the required entrance fee funds we will be on track for a successful little league season this year," said Tenorio over the phone yesterday afternoon.

This Saturday marks the SLLBI's 40th anniversary since its establishment in 1972.

Rota Little League opening ceremony on Sunday

The Rota Little League Baseball Association will be held at 9am on Sunday morning followed by a Major Division matchup.

The Junior, Senior, and Big League openers are set for Monday.

CNMI District Administrator James Ada will be in attendance alongside the RLLBA board of directors.

The RLLBA board members include president Vivian Hocog, vice president Tilford Toves, secretary Sharon Manglona, treasurer Nadia Manglona, player agent Donna Ogo, safety officer Clifford Ogo, chief umpire Roddy Manglona, board of directors chair Efrain Atalig, vice chair Geroge Hocog, and board member Ryan Manglona.

GCDC-CWA U17 girls caging opens tonight



The Garapan Community Development Center will be

hosting a girls basketball league open to female players up to 17 years old starting tonight at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Four teams are already confirmed and slots are still available; there is no entrance fee to participate.

Friday's action starts at 5:30pm with the Lady Barracudas taking on the Lady Manta Rays, followed by the

Lady Sharks against Lady Dolphins at 6:30pm. The other matchups are yet to be determined.

Originally slated as a two-round tournament, organizers decided to extend the league through early May as a way to celebrate the GCDC's first anniversary.

The purpose of the five-on-five full court event is to promote the overall development of young female players.

The event serves as good practice for a number of up and coming female players that very

well be representing the CNMI in the highly-anticipated Micronesian Basketball Tournament, which will be hosted on Saipan in June this year.

Trophies will be awarded to Top 2 place finishers.

The timely presence of all teams are requested as this Friday's opening matchups will be randomly determined.

To register or for more information, stop by the GCDC office located behind Garapan Basketball Court or call 233-8978. (Walter Cepeda Sutherland)

Activity Schedule for February 17, 2012

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
(Morning practices)

6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
(Evening practices)

There are no scheduled events.

2012 Men's B Futsal League
There are no scheduled events.

Martin's 31 points lead Rocket over Thunder
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Blue Haus, Mobil in deadlock
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Athletes of the Year hailed



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Joshua Jones poses with his life-sized cutout after receiving the 2011 NMASA Athlete of the Year award last night during the award ceremony at the Seaside Hall of Saipan Grand Hotel.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
2011 TSL Foundation/NMASA Student Athletes of the Year Rafael Jones and Rachel Abrams pose with their life-sized cutouts along with NMASA president Michael White and TSL Foundation manager Ed Arriola during the awards ceremony last night at the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel.

» Yvonne gets fourth nod
» Rachel receives first
» Two Jones take male plums

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

One repeat winner and three new ones took the top athletes awards in last night's 2011 NMASA Annual Sports Banquet held at the Seaside Hall of Saipan Grand Hotel.

Athletics' Yvonne Bennett was named 2011 Female Athlete of the Year, claiming her fourth straight award. The 21-year-old runner is now based in Idaho, studying at Boise State University, and was presented in the awards ceremony by parents Ambrose and Lilian Bennett.

Bennett got NMASA's nod anew after her record-breaking races in 2011 and gold medal win in the 2011 Oceania Regional Championships in Apia Samoa in July. The Commonwealth sprinter won the 400m race (57.66 seconds) in the Oceania meet and took the bronze and set both the CNMI

and Micronesian records in the 100m (12.52 seconds) and 200m (25.67 seconds) runs.

Then at BSU, she was part of the Bronco's 4x400m women's relay team that crushed the school's 23-year-old record. Bennett and three others completed the 4x400m relay race in three minutes, 44.64 seconds to surpass the 3:45.60 record by a BSU team in an indoor tournament in 1988.

The Kagman High School graduate also set a new CNMI mark (57.14 seconds) in the 400m during the 2011 Western Athletic Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships and was one notch away from



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Baseball dominates awards night

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Baseball stood out in last night's 2011 NMASA Annual Sports Banquet, having the most awardees in the event.

The CNMI Baseball Team took the Team of the Year Award, Tony Rogolifoi won the Coach of the Year, and Saipan Major League Baseball president Rose Igitol claimed the Sports Administrator of the Year.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association handed the Team of the Year award for the first time and no other squad was deserving to get the plum than the CNMI Baseball Team, which beat all odds to win the gold medal in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

The squad was formed only a few months before the September tournament and less than a month before the Games kicked off, the Commonwealth sluggers were still not sure about the New Caledonia trip due to funding problems.

The team eventually made it to Noumea, won its first time and lost the next two before winning the last two for an inconsistent performance in the elimination round. With its 3-2 record, the CNMI managed



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Members, officials, and supporters of the CNMI Baseball Team pose with NMASA officers during the awards ceremony last night at the Seaside Hall of the Saipan Grand Hotel.

to claim the last ticket to the playoffs and had to play and win two games in one day to advance to the finals.

The Commonwealth sluggers went on to beat New Caledonia and Palau and then Guam in the finals, 8-4, to give the CNMI its first gold medal in the baseball competition in the Pacific Games.

The gold medal team was composed of Joshua Jones,

Ian Rogolifoi, Juan Maratita, Eric Tenorio, Ian Rogolifoi, Keoni Lizama, Mike Iguel, Vince Cepeda, Elton Santos, Jesus Iguel, Tyrone Omar, Franco Flores, Thomas Joab, Jerome Delos Santos, Byron Kaipat, Manny Sablan, and Craig Sanchez.

Tony Rogolifoi managed the team and won back-to-back Coach of the Year award. He notched the same trophy in

2010 for bringing the CNMI to the finals in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

Joining the winning squad was Igitol, who led the team's fundraising efforts and coordinated its trip and other activities that allowed the CNMI to compete in New Caledonia despite budgetary constraints.

Besides her contribution to the Pacific Games stint, Igitol
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